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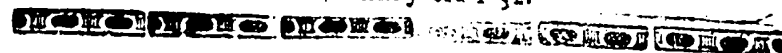
5.
A SHORT
Survey or History of
THE KINGDOME
OF SVEDEN.

Containing
A BRIEF DESCRIPTION
OF ALL THE PROVINCES OF
his whole Dominion:

As also the riches of his Kingdome, the
antiquity, nature, and manners of that Nation;
With the Government of his Realme, Might,
*and Power of this great King, as well by Sea
as by Land; his great Officers, his
Customes and Revenues of
the Crowne.*

With a Genealogy and Pedegree of the Kings of
SVEDEN of those especialy who have reigned these
last five hundred yeeres, with some of their most memo-
rable Acts and Deeds, with their Alliance
and Issue or Off spring.

*Something also more particularly concerning that Illustrious
invincible Great GVSTAVVS ADOLPHVS the II. and
of his Wars with the Russian, Denmarke and Poland:
As also of his most Memorable Acts since his
comming to the Crowne, as well before, as
since his entring into Germany, untill
this present yeere 1632.*




LONDON:

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The Contents or principall heads
handled in this whole
Discourse.

1  *F* the division of all these
Northerne Countries,
and antiquity of the king-
dome of Sweaen, together with the
large extent of this dominion, and
the commodities this kingdome af-
fords.

2 *A more particular survey of the
kingdome of Sweden, with a short
description of the particular parts
or Provinces thereof, and the be-
nefit they yeeld to the king and sub-
iect.*

The Contents.

- 3 *Of the nature, manners, and customs of the Swedish or Suetians, and into how many ranks or degrees the people are divided, where the Clergie is also comprehended.*
- 4 *Of the politicke and civill government of the kingdome of Sweden. Of their five great Colledges, or courts of Justice, and some others also. Of the chiefe great officers of the kingdome.*

Of the might and power of the king of Sweden, both by sea and land: of his horse and foot forces, and great store of brasse ordnance. Of the great number of warre-ships and other ships for service, and the great number of marriners wherewith this kingdome is for all occasions furnished.

The Contents.

- 6 *Of customes and tributes, or subsidies ordinary and extraordinary belonging to the king of Sweden.*
- 7 *A catalogue of some kings of Sweden, together with some of their most memorable acts.*
- 8 *A more particular survey of the last kings of this countrey, of these last 500. yeares, with some other principall acts, alliance, issue, or offspring.*
- 9 *Of great Gustavus Adolphus this present king now reigning, with his most memorable Acts, both before and after his entring into Germany.*

(1)



THE DESCRIPTION OF THE KINGDOME OF SWEDEN.

I.



Our moderne Geographers call all those Northern countries of *Europe* declining towards the North; the Northern world. This whole countrey (say they) is divided into two parts, *Scania*, and

Division of
the Northern
world.

Dania, *Scandia*, or *Scandinavia*, by *Pliny*, called an Iland of unknowne greatnesse, hems in & begirts about all the northernmost part of *Europe*. This is a large and vast Region, extending it selfe from the 55. to the 72. degree of northerly latitude, above 1000.

B

English

(2)

English miles, and from the 25. to the 65. degree of longitude, or 2400 of our miles. On the south side, it borders on *Germany* and *Denmarke*; on the North and West, on the Ocean Sea, and on the East on *Russia*. The parts of this countrey lying neereſt to the South, where the Pole is not elevated above 60 degrees is indifferent temperate; the Region lying betwixt the 60. degree and the arctick circle, are not ſo temperate, howbeit, the intemperature of the ayre is well regulated with the fertility of the ſoyle, in ſuch places eſpecially as are not covered over with woods, or rocks, in the ſouth & eaſterne parts principally. But the extreme, or moſt northern parts, lying betwixt the arctick circle, and the pole arctick, enjoy neither a temperate ayre, nor yet a fruitful ſoile, and ſince; by reaſon of the faint heat of the Sun, corne could not there well ripen, therefore the wiſe Creator of all things hath furniſhed theſe countries with great variety of wild beaſts and divers rivers, lakes & gulſes furniſhed with variety of wholeſome fiſhes, for the ſuſtaining of the inhabitants lives. It would ſeem that this *Scandia* was in former times far more populous, then it is at this time, witneſſe theſe frequent tranſmigrations, and, as it were, inundations of the *Scanzian* people into other remote regions of the world; when as partly by reaſon of the multitude, and naturall fecundity or fruitfulnes of that people, partly by reaſon of dearth of corn, & partly by their inclination to war and avoyding ſilences, like Bees they ſought out new hives for them-

(3)

themselves and their children, and thoſe great heapes of ſtones, even at this day in the moſt deſerts & woods to be ſeen, & in former times, no doubt gathered together to cleanſe the high waies, do undoubtedly evidence unto us, that in former times all thoſe places have bin peopled, and therefore not without great reaſon, did the ancient writers call this country, a ſhop of people: *Officinam gentium populorum que vaginam*, & from hence have we not only the *Normans*, *Suevians*, *Vandals*, & divers other nations: but the *Weſt-goths*, and *Oſtrogths*, alſo who after many peregrinations, thorow many Provinces and Kingdomes, whom they wearied out with their wars, at length they ſetled themſelves in *Spain*, where even at this day they beare rule.

This *Scandia*, or *Scadinavia*, comprehends under it 2 northern kingdomes, *Sweden* & *Norway*. The kingdom of *Sweden*, as witneſſe the *Scanzian* hiſtories, is more ancient then any of the others, from whoſe Kings hath the ancient families of the Kings of *Denmark* & *Norway*, are deſcended for *Dan* firſt King of *Denmark*, from whence this country was called *Dania*, or *Danmarchia* was the ſonne of *Humelus* the 16 King of *Sweden*, and the *Norwegians*, in their Chronicle, before ever they come to their owne, reckon vp 25 Kings of *Sweden*, of whom is deſcended *Hvitthen*, by the mother deſcended of one *Soluon*, a certaine Prince of *Norway* ſucceeded him in his dominion, and haviuing not a little enlarged the ſame, left it to his lawfull heires and ſucceſſors, from whom

Antiquity of
the kingdom
of Sweden.

Haraldus Harfagher, being lineally descended in the fourth degree, having vanquished and expelled all the other petty Kings, did there first of all establish an absolute Monarchy, as witnesseth the ancient Chronicle of *Norway*, written by Master *Iohn Martinus Slangerpensis*, and published in *Denmarke*, Anno. 1595.

Of this kingdome of *Sweden*, I purpose now to say some thing, as I finde it written in the *Swedish* History, howbeit, as briefly as I can: and speaking of the countrey, I shall say something of the severall Provinces and Territories belonging to this Crowne, the commodities and riches they yeeld, both to King and Subject; as also concerning the politicke government, together with divers customes of this countrey. In the next place, something shall be said of the might and power of this great King, both by Sea and Land, his chiefe Officers of State, &c. and then come wee to the Kings of that countrey, both ancient and of latter times, with some of their chiefe acts, and the latter Kings alliances. In the last place is something more particularly said concerning this great *Gustavus Adolphus* now reigning, and his chiefe acts, both before and since his expedition into *Germany*, briefly handled.

The King of *Sweden*, or *Swethland*, call it as you list, although untill now of late yeeres, not so much taken notice of in these parts of the world as many other Princes and Potentates; yet may

it

it well appeare that hee is no meane Prince, nor of small power. His chiefe countrey, and from which he takes his chiefe denomination, is called by some *Sueonia*, and the people from thence *Sueones*: as also, and with us most frequently *Suevia*, and the people *Suevi*; now there is in high *Germany*, another countrey sounding somewhat like it, called *Suevia*, the people *Suevi*, and in high *Dutch*, *Swaben*, bordering on *Bavaria*, being a colonie in former times come out of this countrey of *Sweden*, of whom my purpose is not here to speake. This potent King then hath under his dominion, not onely this country of *Sweden*, properly so called, but also *Gothland*, *Flintland*, and, a great part of *Lapland*, besides some Territories in the dominion of the great Duke or Knez of *Russia*, or *Muscovia*, as hereafter shall appeare. This countrey is a very fruitfull soyle, a land flowing with milke and honey, and yeelding corne in great abundance; besides the great abundance of mettalls digged out of the bowells of the earth, and the excellency of the pastures of this land, may from hence appeare, that some countrey people of *Holland*, removing their habitation into *Sweden*, affirmed that they made as much butter of 60. measures of milke there, as they did in *Holland* of a hundred the like measures. This pleasant countrey is replenished with innumerable lakes, furnished with most daint y fishes; & out of these same lakes do run and issue out many pleasant and profitable

*Sueonia.**Suevia.*

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rivers. This country is in the South parts more plain & even; but towards the North and West more mountainous, not without great store of woods, very usefull for the fining of those mettals, in so great abundance digg'd out of many of those mountaines. The maritime parts not of *Sweibland* onley, but of *Finland* also, are for the most part environed with high and steepe rocky hills & Ilands, many of them being scarce covered with greene grasse, and this is the cause why it is so hard and difficult a matter for strangers, without some skilfull Pilot of the naturall inhabitants, to saile neere their shore, and strangers at their first approaching wonder that such a country should afford the inhabitants meanes to sustaine life, until such time, as they are better acquainted with the inner parts of the countrey; and this land hath likewise commerce with the Ile of *Brittaine*, *Denmarke*, *Norway*, *Poland*, *Russia*, and such other Notherne Regions beyond the 50 or 51 degrees of Northerly latitude, that it bringeth forth none of that noble liquor of the grape, which is notwithstanding in great abundance brought from other countries, and besides, they are well furnished with good ale and beere for their ordinary drinke.

Division of
the kingdome
of Sweden.

2.

The Kingdome of *Sweden* is divided into *Swe-*
den, *Gothland*, *Finland*, *Ingria* and *Esthonia*. *Swe-*
den, or *Sweibland*, called *Suecia*, or *Sueovia*, into
Sueovia, properly so called, and the *Northlands*,
Nordlandias.

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Nordlandias. Of *Sueovia*, properly so called, are these parts or Provinces following. *Vplandia*, *Vestmania*, *Dalecharlia*, *Nevira* and *Suedermania*. This country *Vplandia* hath most commonly bin graced with the pre-eminence above the rest, and where the King hath most commonly kept his Court. This country is very well furnished with plenty of very good corne, the which is liberally imparted, to these daily diggers of mettals upon the mountaines. It is not destitute of good mines of yron, and leed especially, and in some places, of silver also, although not very much. It is againe divided into three folk-lands (as they call them) that is, shires, or Provinces of three people; and these againe sub-divided into smaller parts, much answerable to our division of hundred, and which name they also attribute unto them. Of all the cities and townes, not onely of this, but of all the other Provinces of the *Swedish* dominions, *Stackholme* is the chiefe, and where the King most commonly makes his abode and residence, seated in an Iland among the waters, as *Venice*, for the which cause it had this name imposed. By meanes of the lake *Melexus* it hath brought from the inland al maner of grain, butter, cheese, and such other commodities usefull for the life of man, as also copper, yron, and other mettals; and again, by the same way sends them back such comodities as are brought from remote regions: and by the sea it is supplied with wine, oile, salt, &c. It is much of the same degree of northerly latitude with the city *Aberden* in the north of

Sueovia, and
the parts
thereof.

Vplandia.

Commodities
of this coun-
trei.

Mines in this
countrey.
Division of
Vplandia.

Stackholme.

of *Scotland*, it being seated in the South part of *Sweden*, to wit, betwixt the 58. and 59. degree. Next unto it, is *Upsalia*, sometime the royal seat of the adjacent northerne parts: for there was kept the Kings Court, the supreme court of justice, and there was also the Archbishops see with a faire cathedrall Church, the which onely of all the rest, continueth yet untill this day. There there is also a famous Vniversity, of the which more hereafter. This City is seated, as it were, in the very center of this rich Province, on the banke of the River *Sala*. Besides these, there are yet in this Province some others of good note, howbeit, inferiour to the former, to wit, *Encopia*, *Sigrundia*, *Oregrundia*.

Vestmania.

The next Province of *Saemonia*, is *Vestmania*, in fertility nothing inferiour to *Vplandia*, but in mettalls farre exceeding the same: for in it is a very rich silver mine, called *Salbergh*; as for good yron and Steele, there is there also great abundance, where mines of copper, lead and brimstone are not also wanting. The chiefe Citty thereof is called *Grosia*, and commonly *Westeras*, adorned with a Bishops see, and a cathedrall Church, where is also a faire stately castle to be seene, and heere may one see great store of copper and lead brought from the hils of that countrey: There are yet besides this, the Townes *Arbogia* and *Koping* abounding with the same mettalls, but yron especially.

Rich Mines.

The Province of *Dalecharlia*, although it be

Dalecharlia.

NOT

not inferiour to the former in the abundance of mettalls and mineralls, yet in the abundance of good copper digged out of these deepe vaults and cavernes, to the no small amazement of such as are not acquainted with such sights; it doth farre exceede any other; and besides copper, the same myne yeeldeth yet great store of brimstone, alum and copperas. And the water which is drawne from thence, changeth yron into good copper, with the losse of the fourth part, if the waight of the yron be in small pieces; and the third part only, if the pieces be great and thick. This countrey yeelds also good store of graine; howbeit, scarce sufficient to furnish those laborious painefull pioners, there being there such a number of them maintained at worke.

A profitable water.

Next unto it, is *Nericia*, where although there be a silver myne, yet yeelding but small benefit, is therefore neglected. The mynes of brimstone yeeld also store of alum and copperas. It would seeme, that all the inhabitants of this countrey, are borne naturall Smiths: for they send abroad into all the neighbouring countries all manner of yron implements. They have but one citty, called *Orebregia*.

Nericia.

The last is *Sudermannia*, which is neyther destitute of mettalls, nor yet of good store of yron, especially the parts adjoyning to the great lake *Melarus*. The chiefe city of this countrey is *Nycopia*, a famous port for traffike, and withall adorned with a faire castle, where the Duke of this

Sudermannia.

Nycopia.

C

COUN-

Sivengca.

counrey most commonly had his abode. Next is *Strengesia* an Episcopall Sea, with a Cathedrall Church, graced with the dead corps of *Charles* the 9. of that name, and father to the most famous and victorious King, great *Gustavus* now raigning. There are yet some other Townes belonging to this teritory, to wit, *Tolga*, *Torsilia*, and *Trosa*, all very rich and commodious for trafficke and commerce.

Telga, Torsilia, Trosa.

Northland, Gestricia.

Gervalia.

Helsingia, sometimes a kingdome.

Helsingians, an ancient people.

The other part of *Sweden*, is properly called by the name of *Northland*. Of this *Northland*, there are two Provinces, *Gestricia* & *Helsingia*. *Gestricia*, had corne enough to supply the inhabitants wants, and besides, is well furnished with yron mynes: It hath in it one very good City, called *Gervalia*, seated by the Sea-side, as well for exportation, as importation of all manner of commodities, and about halfe a daies journey from the coper mynes. By ancient records, it appeareth that this *Helsingia* in former times, was a generall name, comprehending the rest of the Northern Provinces; and the *Scanzian* Histories doe testifie, that this same country in former times, was graced with the Title of a kingdome, and was governed by Kings, until such time as *Ingel-lus*, King of *Vpsalia*, and father to *Olavus Tretelias*, King of *Vermelandia*, at his coronation burnt to ashes, the last *Helsingian* King, with some other moe, whose kingdome hee after incorporated to that of *Vpsalia*. Many other things concerning the antiquity and valour of this Nation, for brevity

vity, I purposely let passe. Among all the *Swedish* people, these are most remarkable for their great hospitality; and besides, they are so affectionate to learning, that although publike Schooles for good literature, be but rare among them, yet are private persons, who have attained to any learning, so forward to instruct their neighbours, that it is a hard matter to find one going at plough, but hee can read. The inhabitants of this country, are either *Helsingians*, properly so call'd, or *Laplanders*. Of the *Helsingians*, then the Provinces, or these: *Helsingia* properly so called, *Medelpadia*, *Angermania*, and *Bothnia*.

Affectionate to learning.

This *Helsingia*, properly so called, was formerly caled *Sundhede* and *Nordstegh*. The soyle of this country is fruitfull enough, and the inhabitants much addicted to grazing of cattle, and many of them are very industrious in making of linnen cloth, and not unskilfull in many other manual trades, some being also addicted to fishing. It containeth one good city, *Hudinswaldia*, whose inhabitants transport into other countries great store of butter, tallow, hides and skins, pitch and rozen, masts for ships, clap-boord and the like.

Helsingia properly so called.

Hudinswaldia.

Medelpadia is much of the same nature & quality with *Helsingia*, but that it is somewhat narrow and fuller of woods. It is furnished with a good rivers, well stor'd with exceeding good fish, as *Salmons* especially, and it is supposed, that in former times, the *Helsingian* Kings kept their Court in this Countrey.

Medelpadia.

Angermannia, although it be full of high and

Angermannia.

Fertility of
the soyle.

leepe rockes, yet are the vallies so fruitfull, that if but once in ten yeeres compassed, they bring forth every yeere exceeding good corne, if the unseasonableness of the weather, doe not sometimes frustrate the husband-mans expectation. It is, as it were, divided into two armes, the one more southerly, running towards the West; the other towards the Sea, and further to the North. It is watered with one faire river, abounding with divers sorts of good fishes, Salmons especially: there is in it also one faire city.

Bohnia.

Bohnia is not so hilly as this *Angermannia*, and yet by reason of the sandy soyle, and the coldness of the climat, the countrey is not so fruitfull as the former, which defect, notwithstanding, is well supplied with the abundance of other commodities. It is very well watered with divers great rivers, abounding with very good fish, Salmons, especially: It hath in it no city, howbeit, every Parish is, as it were, a towne of trafficke and commerce; for in sommer they provide store of corne, and such other commodities, as their neighbour *Laplanders* want, which they buy of such as trafficke into their countrey, which commodities in the winter they carry into *Lapland*, where all rivers and rivers and lakes are hard frozen; and bring againe backe from thence great abundance of rich furies, fishes dried and hardened with the frost, and many the like commodities.

Lapponia, or
Lappia.

Next followes *Lapponia*, or *Lappia*, called commonly

monly *Lapland*, and the inhabitants *Lappones*, *Laplanders*. This is the northernmost Province belonging to this potent Prince, a large and vast countrey, but hath neyther corne-fields, cities nor townes. The countrey is full of hills, woods, rivers, lakes and pooles; and in many places very good pastures. The people are ingenious enough and civill, living most by hunting and fishing: They live like unto the *Tartars*, travelling in great troupes together, with their cattell, and settle about some river or lake, where there is good pasture for their cattell, and when that is all eaten up, remove to another place. Adultery and murther is scarce heard of among that people, nor yet any theft, and merchants travelling that way, ordinarily leave their wares, covered onely with some old cloth to keepe off the snow, and after divers daies, at their returne, never misse any of their goods. Their apparrell is made of skinnies of beasts and wollen cloth brought to them from other countries; as for linnen cloth they have none; but to sew their clothes, they make thred of the nerves or sinewes of beasts, dried, beaten, and dressed like flaxe, with the which they both sew their garments, & cover the same also with tinne, as we doe with silver and so adorne their garments therewith, as we doe with silver and gold lace. In former times, they were much addicted to forcery and witchcraft, howbeit, that is now well reformed. In stead of houses they

Their manner
of life.

Their innocencie.

Their apparrell.

Strange
thred.

Their tents.

Their tents. use tents made of the barke of birch sowed together. In the winter time, they meete together at certaine places, and faile not, where both these aforementioned merchants, find them to trafficke with the Kings customers, to demand their tribute, and the Churchmen were wont to come to catechize them, and to baptize their children, &c. But *Charles* the 9. and father to this famous and great *Gustavus*, now reigning, built in severall places of this country certaine chapells, and churches for the exercise of Religion.

Nature of the people. This people is nimble, active, and very good souldiers, which if envy it selfe should deny, yet that memorable battell fought neer *Leipzig* will witnes to the worlds end: some of the hills of this country yeeld precious stones, viz. Diamonds, Topazes, and Amethists.

**Good soldiers
Diamonds,
Topazes, and
Amethists
among them.**

At this day, these *Laplanders* are subject to 3. Kings, of *Sweden*, *Denmark*, and the great Duke of *Russia*. The greatest, & the best part of this country, viz. all the South, & mediterranean part, belongs to the King of *Sweden*, a very huge vast countrey, extending from the 69. to the 71. degree of northerly latitude, being above 400. miles in length and above 360. in breadth.

**Division of
this countrey.**

This country is divided into 5. several territories, or jurisdictions, called *Lapmarchia*, to wit, *Vmalapmarck*, *Pitalapmarck*, *Tornlapmarek*, & *Kimilapmarck*, whose inhabitants pay tribute to none but to the King of *Sweden*. To *Norway*, now under the danish King, belongeth that tract running along

long the sea-coast, called *Finnmarchia*, and the inhabitants *Siofuni*, or maritime inhabitants, living upon fish onely. The rest belongs to the *Russian* Prince, from the castle of *Vardhus* to the mouth of the *milbrie* sea, in the *Swedish* tongue called *Trennes*: in the *Laplanders* language *Pribienni*; and in the *Russian* speech *Tarchanavolech* even at this day.

Now next after the country of *Sweden* followes *Gothia*, in order *Gothia*, or *Gotland*; as if one should say, a good land, being also subiect to the Crowne of *Sweden*, & divided from the same by a great wood only. This is the ancient country, and naturall soile of so many warlike people, which in former ages have made their names famous to future generations, which honour many other nations would willingly assume unto themselves, the w^{ch} subject, for brevities sake, I must here passe.

This countrey is divided into two parts, East and West *Gotland*. To West *Gotland* belong these Provinces following *Vestrogotbia*, *Dalia* and *Vermelandia*, vnto which some joyned *Hallandia*.

**Division of
this countrey**

Vestrogotbia, as it is somewhat inferiour to the most fruitfull parts of *Sweden*, in regard of corne; so doth it againe in good pastures for cattle exceed them; wherein consists their chiefe riches, as the others in their tillage, & increase of corn. It is also watered with many rivers, yeelding great store of fish, besides divers Citties and Townes. The Citties are *Gotheburgum*, a great and rich staple for trafficke; *Slara* an Episcopall

Vestrogotbia.

Citties.

Townes

Episcopall Sea, *Mariesladum*, and *Lidecopia*. The townes thereof *Fabropia*, *Sbredni*, *Hin*, *Bogesund*, *Beretta*, and *Lindofia* the old.

Dalia

Dalia, is a mountainous countrey in most places; hath many fishie rivers and lakes, and pasture for cattell in no small abundance, in so much, that there are farre greater oxen found in that countrey, then in other places.

Vermelandia

Vermelandia, among all the *Gothish* Provinces best inhabited, and colonies first carried thither by *Olaus Trekelius*. It is a hilly and wood-land countrey, yet not unfurnished, of yron mynes, and one of copper reasonable rich, but lately found out. In it is one citty called *Caroloftadium*, built by *Charles* the 9. in a place before called *Tingualla*, *Hallandia*, a little countrey adjoyning thereto, because belonging to the King of *Denmarke*, I there of set purpose passe by.

Caroloftadium

The Provinces of East-*Gothland*, are *Ostrogothia*, *Smalandia*, and *Oelandia*, with which in former times, were also reckoned *Gotlandia*, *Scania*, and *Bleckingia*. *Ostrogothia*, is for the most part a plaine champian countrey, and so fruitfull, that it exceedeth many other Provinces of *Sweden*, and by some thought, not to equall onely, but even to exceede *Upland* it selfe, the principall Province of the whole *Swedish* dominion. It is exceeding pleasant, and very well furnished with many fishie rivers, abundance of wild beasts and wild fowle; and finally, whatsoever is useful for mans sustnance, except wine and salt. Neither is it furnished

Ostrogothia

Fertility of the soyle.

unfurnished of mynes in the mountainous parts of *Godegard*, *Hellestaberger*, and *Vongaberger*. In it is seated the City *Vadstenan*, adorned with a faire castle, and an Abbey dedicate to Saint *Brigeta*. There is besides it, *Scheningia*, sometimes of great fame and note, but now reduced to the forme of a Towne, *Lanicopia*, an Episcopall Sea, *Norcopia*, and *Sudercopia*, two famous staples, or Townes for trafficke.

Smalandia, a large country, above 300. miles in compasse, and is, for the most part, full of great woods, and yet for good pastures, nothing inferior to many of the neighbour countries, in so much that they send many very great fed cattle into *Denmarke*, which are from thence yeerely in great abundance sent into all high *Germany* and the low countries. In it are also great store of great rivers & lakes, wel stored with abundance of excellent good fish. In that part called *Tinastia* there are copper mines newly found out. In *Taberg* there are good Steele mynes: and besides, out of their lakes, they gather a certaine rude matter, which with very small labour is made very good yron. This countrey is divided into divers parts, the principall whereof, are *Tieherad*, *Verandia*, *Tinastia*, as also *Finherdia* and *Mantingia*, famous for the *Longobards* expedition. Cities for the largeness of the countrey it hath not many; the chiefe are *Calmarnia*, *Levecopia*, *Vexio* an Episcopall Sea, *Elresio*, and *Veservile*.

Smalandia

Good pastures.

Mines of copper and Steele.

Division of this country.

D

Olandia,

Olandia.

Occasion of
warrest be-
twixt the
two neigh-
bouring Prin-
ces.

Olandia is a rich and fruitfull Iland, abounding in many rich commodities. But because this Iland, as likewise *Hollandia* and *Bleckingia* are at this present under the obedience of the *Danish* King, I will here passe by it. And yet shall it not be out of purpose to take notice that these Ilands have beene the cause of great quarrells and controversies betwixt these two neighbouring *Princes*, *Sweden* and *Denmark*: and no lesse cotrouersie hath it caused among *Writers*, some pretending a right, some a long prescription of time to corroborate the Title of their Prince, whose right they tooke upon them to maintaine.

Finlandia.

VVhy so cal-
led.Nature of
this people.

Next in order followes *Finland*, which some thinke so to be called in comparison of *Sweden*, as though it did in fruitfulness farre exceed it, who are foulely deceived: for it is more probable that it was first called *Fiendland*, by reason of the great hostility those *Finlanders* exercised against this nation, so long as they were commanded by a King of their owne. This countrey abounds in corne, pastures, fish, and fowle; and finally, in such things as are most necessary for the life of man: this people is very laborious and able to endure hardship. Of old they were esteemed the mildest among all those *Scanzian* people, howbeit, at this day, they be somewhat harsher, and their valour in warre was well witnessed in this last memorable battle, fought neere *Leipsig* in *Misnia*. They have a peculiar language,

language of their owne, in the which are some singularities to be observed; namely, that some letters they cannot pronounce: as B, D, G, and that they want the letter F, neyther have they any word beginning with two consonants, and therefore when they pronounce any such word, in other languages, they leave out such letters: and for this cause, if they be not sent abroad while they are yet young, they can never learne to pronounce forreigne languages, and thus for *gratus*, they pronounce *ratus*, for *spes*, *pes*: for *Dominus*, *tominus*: for *bonus*, *ponus*, &c. And this is the reason, why the Nobles, Merchants, and others of ability, send their youth to be instructed in the *Swedish* tongue, by which meanes they are afterwards fitted for the learning of any other. Againe, in their language, they observe no genders, having one onely articles, *se*, which they attribute to both sexes, and to all genders. Some others for brevity, I here willingly passe by. These *Finlanders* in former times, had Kings of their owne nation, great warres with the *Swedish*, untill such time as being by *Ericus* King of *Sweden*, subdued in the yeere 1130. they were also forced to embrace the Christian faith. Now this King subdued not the whole countrey, but afterwards *Birgerus Ieri* subdued *Tavastia*, and againe *Targillus* subdued *Runts*, or *Carelia*, and about the yeere 1193. the better to keepe them in obedience, and withall to inhibit the

Singularities
in their lan-
guages.When, and by
whom first
subdued.

incurſions of the *Ruſſians*, hee built the caſtle *Viburg*.

Division of
the country.

Cities, towns
and caſles.

Finland is divided into the South & North, *Ca-*
iania, *Sauolaxia*, *Tavaſtia*, *Nylandia* and *Carlia*. The
Northerne part is divided from the Southerne
by the river *Amarokeri*, running hard by the Epiſ-
copall ſea *Abo*. In the Weſterne part thereof,
is that old caſtle *Gusto*, now ruined; in the Eaſt
part the caſtle *Raſeberg*, together with the juris-
diction thereto belonging. The Northerne part
thereof extends it ſelfe towards the Bothnicke
gulfe, Northward; comprehending the one and
the other *Salagundia*, *Vienio*, and *Maseo*. In it is a
famous river called *Cumo-elſſe*, abounding with
Salmons, and many other dainty fiſhes, and
neere the Epiſcopal City, *Biornebegh*, falling in-
to the Sea. Betwixt this city and *Abo*, are the
townes *Raumo*, *Nyſſadh*, and *Nadhandill*, where
was of old, that famous Monastery, called the
valley of grace.

Caiania.

Townes.

Caiania, called alſo the Eaſterne *Bothnia*, is
furnished with many goodly fiſhie rivers. It
hath lately built therein the townes *Vla* and *Vaſa*;
as alſo the caſles *Caianoburgum* and *Vloburgum*.

Sauolaxia.

Lake-Ladoga.

Sauolaxia abounds with goodly lakes and ri-
vers, and almoſt all of them diſburden them-
ſelves by the river *Vox*, into that great lake, *La-*
doga. This lake *Togetha*, together with theſe ri-
vers among all the reſt of this *Scanzian* country,
doe onely breed the ſeacalfe, called *Phoca*, and
Vitulus Marinus. They are likewise furnished
with

with abundance of other good fiſhes, and among
others great lackes and Pikes, which are from
thence, being firſt dried with the froſt, in great
abundance transported to *Viburgum*. In it is al-
ſo a very faire ſtrong caſtle, built in the yeere,
1475. by one *Ericus Axelſon*, Maſter of the
Kings houſhold, and by him called *Saint Olavus*
caſtle.

Sea-caſſe.

Nyſſa.

Tavaſtia is a mediterranean countrey, and in
it that famous and renowned lake *Peiende*. The
ſtrong caſtle of *Tavaſtia* was built by *Bergerus Ie-*
ri, to curbe and keepe under theſe *Tavaſtians* by
him newly conquered, and ſubjugated under
the Crowne of *Sweden*, having withall com-
pelled them to embrace the Chriſtian religi-
on. In the North parts of this countrey, the in-
habitants fiſh out of the bottomes of their lakes
a certaine rude matter, which, with ſmall labour
and paines, and as little charges, they make ve-
ry good yron, and very ſerviceable for mans
uſe.

Tavaſtia.
Nyſſa or
New-caſſe.

Yron made
of water.

Nylandia, not that it was ſo called, as though
in former times it had beene without any inha-
bitants, but by reaſon that thoſe who doe now
inhabite the ſame, in compariſon of other, were
but newly come thither, for the *Helſingians* and
other people of *Sweden*, ſent thither their colo-
nies. The countrey is fruitfull enough, and well
furnished with ſtore of fiſh, fowle & wild beaſts
for hunting. It hath in it two townes, *Borgo*, and
Heſingfors.

Nylandi.

Townes.

Carelia is a large and vast Region, and seemeth that the old inhabitants lived most by their sheepe and cattell: for *Curia* in their language, signifieth sheepe or cattell. So long as the *Finnlanders* had a King of their owne nation over them, all this countrey of *Carelia* belonged to *Finland*: but since the *Swedish* did so much by warre annoy the inhabitants, that by little and little, they brought many of the Provinces of that country, to become tributary to them; the *Russians* much suspecting the power arising of so potent a neighbouring Prince, thought in time to anticipate his enemies, designs: for the which cause, this *Russian* Prince by force of armes, made himselfe Master of this whole countrey. And this same country was for many yeeres after the common theater of warre betwixt those two potent Princes of *Sweden* and *Russia*, and that for a long tract of time, with various and doubtfull event, sometimes the one, and sometimes again the other party prevailing, untill such time as *Magnus*, surnamed *Smek*, King of *Sweden*, and *George*, Duke of *Novogardia* divided it equally betwixt them, setting & appointing their limits and bounds in *Systerbecke*. Now how it came wholly within these few yeeres under the crowne of *Sweden*, shall hereafter in its proper place appeare. In this *Carelia* is that strong city *Wiburg*, a famous staple or mart towne for merchants, exceeding well fortified with strong walls, and deepe large moates round about, and a strong

Wiburg,

strong castle in the same. This same City have the *Russians* often (but in vaine) besieged with 100000. armed men. *Rexholmia*, by the *Swedish* corruptly so called, and by the *Russians*, *Carolagorod*, or the fort or fortresse of *Carelia* is seated very strongly in two little Ilands, at the mouth of the river *Wexen*, in the one of which is seated the city, and in the other the castle. The soyle is very fruitfull, especially such places as adjoyne next unto the great lake *Ladesco Ozera*: but 15. or 20. miles further from the lake, it is so marshie and fenny, that the mountainous and hilly parts thereof will onely beare corne, for the which cause the inhabitants there live most vpon fish and wild beasts, and this aforementioned lake is one of the greatest of all *Europe*, as being above 190. miles in length, and about 80. in breadth, and of this lake, about the fifth part onely belongs to the *Russian* Prince, and all the rest to the Crowne of *Sweden*. In this great lake, besides the great abundance of *Salmons* and other fishes, there is there caught a little fish also little bigger then a hering, and in their language called *Ladog* (no where else in all *Russia*, but there to be found) from whence this lake takes the denomination. In the countrey of *Rexholme*, are some rubies found.

Rexholmia.

Greatest lake of all *Europe*.

A peculiar fish. *Rubies*.

Next *Carelia*, followes both in the order of nature and situation the countrey called *Ingria*, which was but lately annexed to the Crowne of *Sweden*. The soile is very fruitful in the which are many

Ingria.

*Alce, Elgh, or
Elent.*

Nottburg.

*Capurio, Iama-
rod.*

*Ethonia.
How it came
first under the
Swedish
Crowne.*

many rivers full of good wholesome fish. Besides, in that country is great store of wild fowle and wild beasts of severall kinds; and among these they hunt most that wilde beast in Latin called *Alce*, in the *Swedish* language, *Elgh*, and in high *Dutch* *Elent*. These beasts twice a yeere in great troopes passe over the river *Nieva*: for in the spring, they passe in great number out of *Russia* into *Carelia*; and in harvest againe returne the same way into *Russia*. This countrey hath in it many strong forts and castles, which have hitherto beene accounted the keyes of the *Russian* kingdome, and no other in all his dominions with them to be compared. *Nottburg* is the chiefeft and strongest hold of all the rest, and therefore held impregnable, howbeit, at length taken in by the victorious King now reigning, as hereafter shall appeare. In the same country, are also *Capurio*, *Iamarod*, Castles not onely strong by nature, but very well furnished also by the art of man.

The last of all the Provinces belonging to this Crowne and Kingdome of *Sweden*, is called *Ethonia*, being a part of that vast countrey, called *Livonia*, and hath not beene vnder the *Swedish* gouernment above 60 and odde yeeres, and by this meanes came first under that iurisdiction. Certaine Nobles who tooke upon them to propagate the Christian religion being sent for into *Livonia*, forgetting the errand they came about, gave themselves wholly over to carnall

nall lust, and gluttonie, and drunkennesse; and withall keeping the inhabitants in such a base and slavish subiection, that they seemed rather to command ouer beasts then men. And for this cause, God the auenger of all wrongs, and punisher of all wickednesse stirred vp *Basilus* the tyrant of *Muscovia* to suppress their insolencie and punish their pride, who subdued a great part of *Livonia*, destroying all in their way that made resistance, with fire and sword. These poore *Livonians* now perceiuing themselves put to such a strait, implored the ayde of the Emperour *Charles* the 5. keeping then a dyet, or generall meeting of the whole estates of the Empire at *Ausbourg* 1551. this countrey then being a member of the Empire. The Emperour then, distracted with other warres, not being able to send them any succour, wished them to seeke for succour and ayde of the king of *Sweden* and other neighbouring Princes. The *Revalians* therefore, and the *Oselians* demand ayde of the king of *Denmarke*, (*Revalia* being heretofore built by *Valdemarus*, a King of *Denmarke*, and from him received their priviledges) howbeit to no end. And therefore finding no sudden succour against so mighty and potent a Prince, they were constrained to implore ayde of *Ericus* 14. king of *Sweden*, and therefore in the yere 1561. freely submitted themselves under his obedience; which petition of theirs notwithstanding, his father *Gustavus* had in his life time denied:

E and

Provinces of
this countrey

and therefore some are of opinion that this king *Ericus* brought vpon himselfe and successours a great deale of trouble. His sonne *Iohn* was as well successour to this quarrell as to the kingdome, and tooke from the Russian many of his strong holds. The Provinces of this countrey of *Esthonia* are, *Revalia* towards the North, seated neere vnto the Finnicke gulfe: *vizia* in which are these places, *Refenburgh*, *Tolsburgh*, and *Borholme*, *Alenrakia*, where is that famous merchant *Haple*, *Naruia* and *Nylstot*; *Iervia*, where is *Wittensleyn* and *Lais*: and *Vickia*, where are *Hapsal*, *Lebal* and *Lode*. And to this *Esthonia* belong these Islands also: *Dagho*, *Orinfo*, *Nuko*, *VVrango*, *Odensholme*, *Nargo*, *Vlso*, and the one and other *Nogho*; the inhabitants of which places, as also of *Ofica*, and most of the maritime parts of the continent speake the Swedish language. In this great countrey of *Livonia* besides the Swedish, there are yet foure other severall languages spoken: the German or high Dutch, vsed by the Nobles and better sort: in the North-parts towards the Finnicke gulfe the *Esthonian* or *Finnicke*: in the mediterranean parts the *Livonians*, being now almost quite worn out: and finally in the South parts thereof they vse the *Letticke* speech, or of the countrey of *Lettow*, which the people *Eureles* likewise vse, the which is as it were a hodge-podge of many severall languages mingled together. And these languages differ not onely in dia-

Five severall
languages in
Livonia.

Commodities
of the coun-
trei.

lects, but wholly and totally one from another. This whole countrey of *Livonia*, and consequently this *Esthonia* abound with all such things as are necessary for the life of man, and are vsually to be found in these Northerne climates. And so much shall suffice shortly to haue said concerning the description of the countrey of *Sweden*, and Provinces subiect to the Swedish crowne.

CHAP. III.

*Of the nature, manners; and customes of the
Suecians or Swedish, and into how many
rankes or degrees all these peo-
ple are divided.*

THIS people is reasonable wittie and vnderstanding, and that not onely for learning and vnderstanding of any mechanickall trade, but even for the learning of the arts and sciences, as also any outlandish tongues whatsoever. For such as are of any eminent ranke and degree, or competent meanes, content not themselves with their Latine tongue and knowledge of the liberrall arts. but give themselves also very much to the learning of the Germane or high Dutch & French tongues. In former times their maners &

Nature of the
inhabitants.

Not so vicious as many other Nations.

Apparell of this people. Their buildings,

Woodshere very frequent

Bread of the barke of trees

conditions were very plaine and homely, and although now somewhat declining from former simplicitie, yet are they farre from that height of luxurie and pride, whereunto many other nations are now so much addicted. The apparell of the vulgar sort is but meane; but the Gentilitie are now somewhat given to follow outlandish fashions, and to emulate their equalls. Private mens houses as well in townes as the countrey, are for the most part, built low and of wood, and that both for warmth, and for avoyding the dint of great winds. In Stocke-holme notwithstanding, and some other walled Cities and townes, most of their buildings, are either of bricke or free-stone. The countrey commonly yeelds plentie of good corne, and might yeeld more, if some of those vast unprofitable woods were cut downe, howbeit there is there seldome felt any scarcitie of corne, unlesse sometimes the yeare proue very unseasonable, which in hotter climates commeth also sometimes to passe: and in such a case the countrey-people are sometimes forced to make bread of the barke of the firre and pine-trees, which they esteeme very wholesome, agreeing well with their stomacks, and free from any maligne qualitie. Fish and flesh is here very plentifull, howbeit neither in great request fresh, but either salted up, or dried in the sunne or smoke. They are also well stored with venison, as also with wild fowle, such especially as are accounted the daintiest.

The

The coniugall bed is among them kept unfild and inviolable. Their maides are not there married without consent of parents or guardians: neither yet is it lawfull for any man to betroth, or marry such a maide without the presence of 4 witnesss, two of the part of the bridegrome, and as many on the brides side, a penaltie of fourtie markes to bee imposed upon the partie that infringes this decree. VVhen a maide is thus betrothed, the guardian may not object any thing to hinder the marriage, except it be very lawfull, and by the lawes of the land determined to be such; if he shall chance to doe otherwise, the bridegrome may lawfully breake open the doores, and carry her away by force if he cannot otherwise: and if there should by this meanes, either death or wounds ensue, no punishment shall be inflicted for wounds, or death of the resisting partie. But if the other partie that is about to recouer his spoue, be either wounded or killed, the punishment of such a resisting person shall be double, and the woman shall be esteemed lawfully rescued, and not ravished and taken by force. Againe, these be the words of the law-maker *Whosoever departs from his wife, and makes a contract and agreement to cohabite with another woman, the other wife to him before lawfully married being yet alive, and this be, by sufficient witnesss, legally proved, they shall both lose their lives the man being beheaded, and the woman stoned to death.*

Adultery there unknowne.

Manner of their marriage and betrothing.

E 3

VVhen

Manner of
succeeding in
inheritances.

VWhen as either man or woman dyes, leaving children behind him, whether sonnes or daughters, they shall succeed in the inheritance, the sonne shall have two, and the daughter one part for her share: and the nephew shall have the like share as a sonne, and the neece as a daughter, whether their children live or dye; but with all the fifth degree is here excluded from succession.

If the heire
be absent.

If any person dye, whose next heire is without the Realme, if the heire returne within a yeare and a night, with sufficient prooffe that he is lawfull heire to the deceased partie, he shall as lawfull heire succeed to the partie deceased. But if he come not within a yeare and a night, the king shall be his heire, whether the goods be moveable or unmoveable: and this is commonly called *Dana-arsf*. If the goods given to any, be not moveable, let him receive them againe that gave them.

Dana arf,

If the heire
be not owne

If any native of the country dye, and the heire be knowne, the inheritance shall be kept for the right heire: but if it be not knowne who is the right heire, and no word be sent from him, or else some other assurance where he is, or that he come not within a yeere and a day; then the Kings exchequer shall receive the one halfe of his estate, and the other halfe was formerly to be employed for praying for his soule; but since the reformation of Religion converted, to other charitable uses.

This

This people, not onely of late, but even of old hath been much commended for their great hospitalitie in entertaining strangers; the which as it is common to all these Northerne people, so is it most conspicuous in the Swedish nation, it being esteemed there a hainous indignitie to deny entertainment to strangers and travellers, there being among them certain particular constitutions concerning this same particular. Besides, they are of that sinceritie of life and conversation, and so far from wronging others, that this hath caused no smal admiration to strangers and travellers passing that way; which may in this appeare, that although there be very great Forrests found in that countrey, yet seldome any robberies by the high wayes are amongst them heard of.

Their hospitality.

Robberies
seldome heard
of among this
people.

In ancient times both the Swedish and the Goths had their owne proper letters and language, howbeit their letters have beene by the first founders of Christianitie in these parts quite abolished, and Latine letters put in their places. And of this some render this reason; that among these people were many bookes full of their ancient heathenish superstition, which superstition of theirs they thought would hardly be quite rooted out, vnlesse as well their letters, as books written with those letters were utterly abolished. But by this meanes it is to be supposed, that we are likewise deprived of many ancient acts and antiquities not unworthy the knowing, which

Gothish letters
abolished

Gentrie, the ecclesiasticall estate, souldiers or martiall men, the merchants and husbandmen, or labourers of the ground.

Princes of
the bloods

The Princes of the blood are commonly the Kings sonnes or brothers. The Kings eldest son doth now, according to the custome, usually succeed, and the others are called Dukes, and livings answerable to their birth and greatnesse assigned them. The daughters have portions assigned them, yet not out of the Kings treasure, but of the subjects purses. And although the Kingdome be now become hereditary, yet doe the Kings alwayes sweare to maintaine religion according to the *Augustine* confession.

The Nobility
Their titles
were not hereditary.

The Nobilitie is divided into Earles, Barons, Knights, Squires, and ordinary Gentry. The Earles were of old called *leri*, and were by their Kings created, as likewise Dukes, called *Hertzogh* for their singular valor & worth; but none of these titles were hereditary or descended to posterity. And by reason those great men had often in rebellion opposed themselves against their naturall Kings, therefore for divers yeeres these titles were quite omitted, vntill such time as *Ericus 14.* in imitation of other Kings and Potentates introduced again these titles of Earles and Barons, and made them hereditary to posterity. As for Knights they ever were, as now they are also, made for their worth and prooffe vpon the atchieving of some noble exploits, and descend not to posterity, unlessse they succeed in
their

When made
hereditary.

their predecessours vertues and valour. As for the other Gentry, the chiefe of them are those we commonly call Squires, and of old were called *ast-wapu*. Out of these ranks of Nobility above mentioned are elected and chosen the supreme ministers and officers of iudicature and other great employments of the Kingdome; and for this cause have great maintenance allowed them.

As for the clergie and state ecclesiasticall, it is composed of these persons following: first is the Archbishop of Vpsalia, together with seuen other Bishops; and besides these, there are yet foure superintendents, who although in name they differ from the former, yet in nature & function little or nothing; and this last is most commonly the highest title among the Protestant Churches beyond the seas, as well Lutherans or others. So these Bishops and superintendents were adioyned the Canons, Prebends, &c. and under them Ministers and Preachers of euery Parish. The Bishops in former times were possessors of many strong holds and Castles, and great livings, and were exceeding rich, by reason whereof they were able to live like great Princes (as at this day in Germany and other places is to be seen) by this means they became so haughty, and insolent, that sometimes they waged war with their owne naturall Princes, sometimes expelling them out of their kingdome. For this cause *Gustavus* the 1. of that name, lest the like

The clergie
or persons
ecclesiasticall

Bishops lived
like Princes
in Sweden.

should befall himselfe or his successours, assembled the whole estates of his kingdome to take counsell against the Bishops then making preparation for an open rebellion; and by their advice and consent annexed unto the Crowne their lands and possessions, together with all their strong holds and Castles, reserving for these ecclesiasticall persons some part as well of the tythes as other revenues, to be for them a fit and competent maintenance. In former times these Bishops had place among the chiefe Senatours and counsellours of the kingdome, and the Archbishop of Vpsalia, and sometimes also the Bishop of Lincopia assumed unto themselves the title of Primate of the whole Kingdome; for the which cause in those dayes this dignity was by great Nobles sued for: but since this Kingdome made profession of the reformed Religion, the clergie of highest title meddle only with Church-affaires; and now mens sonnes of the meanest degree and birth, merchants or husbandmens are admitted unto such functions. And yet this priviledge they still enjoy, that in every parliament they have a voice as well as any of the Nobility or others.

Next follow the military forces as well horse as foot, which notwithstanding consist not of forreine mercenary forces: For the foot forces are culled and pickt out from among the choicest youth of the kingdome, by decimation, or taking every tenth man. After they are once en-

The military
forces

The trained
bands, where-
of consist the
foot forces,

rolled,

rolled, they are not onely freed from all subsidies, impositions, or other payments whatsoever, but have also a yeerely stipend allowed them of the king, who causeth certaine commanders for this same purpose appointed (being first furnished with all manner of weapons) for certaine yeares to traine them vp at home, in the meane time enuring them to endure all manner of hardship, and such toyle and labour as souldiours are wonted in war to endure; while in the meane time the old bands (it need so require) be employed in forreine expeditions. And thus it commeth to passe, that although the King carry never so great an army out of the countrey against a forreine enemy, yet is the kingdome never left unfurnished of sufficient defence, ready to serve upon all occasions, and by this meanes there is the lesse use of mercenary souldiers, unlesse upon urgent and extraordinary occasion, as now in this great and memorable expedition against the *Austrian* house, and the whole Catholike league. It need not therefore seeme strange, that this great King hath even in our memories waged war alone and the same time against all his three potent neighbours, the king of Poland, of Denmarke, and the great Prince or Duke of Russia. For whensoever his forces are either wearied or worne out, he is able presently to exchange with a new supply, who being already inured to hardship and military labor and toyle, are able to undergoe any difficulty whatsoever.

The horse-
forces, and
how raised.

Their horse-forces are raised both from among the Gentry and the common people. The Nobles according to the greatnesse of their Lordships and lands maintaine many horsemen for the defence of the countrey: and besides these, the commons of every Province possessing rich Manors or Farmes, to free themselves from all tributes and taxes maintaine according to their meanes, certaine horsemen under the command of the Captaine of that place where hee liveth.

Merchants.

The fifth degree, ranke or order is of merchants inhabiting cities and townes. These both bring in, and carry out of the kingdome divers merchandizable commodities, bought first of the naturall inhabitants, from whence they gather no small gaine. Now these cities and merchant-staples have among them certaine peculiar municipal lawes and constitutions, derived from the law of the most ancient city *Bithia*, the which about 600. yeeres ago was the seat Royal where the King kept his Court, and the chiefe staple of the whole kingdome. Each of these cities and townes enjoyeth also certaine particular privileges, and very laudable constitutions, by which it was ordained and determined after what manner the mediterranean cities should trafficke and trade with the inhabitants and maritime, to the end that each place might bee an indifferent sharer in the gaine: and besides, this laudable constitution was also enacted, that the

Certain lawes
and constitutions
have
been appointed
for traffick and com-
merce.

the benefit, gaine, or rising of one City should not prove the ruine of another. But these laudable lawes and wholesome constitutions by reason of so many wars and broyles wherewith this kingdome hath so often beene troubled, have beene by the governours of this kingdome now for a long time neglected; and by this meanes many disorders are by little and little crept into their trafficke and commerce. And therefore this illustrious and victorious king *Gustavus Adolphus* now reigning, to testifie and make knowne his love and fatherly affection to his countrey, in restoring and repairing the ruines and breaches of the common-wealth, among many other things, did againe as it were, revive, and put life into those now almost dead lawes, and enlarge the same; the which if after wards they shall be duly observed, no doubt but these cities will soone againe returne to their former splendor and dignity.

The last ranke and degree among this people, is that of husbandman, the which although lowest in degree, yet not of least use and necessitie, as being the very ground and foundation of all the rest, and who furnish all the others; both with food and rayment. And of these there are yet two sorts: the first are free-holders, having their lands and possessions hereditary, and out of the which they use to pay something yeerely to the king, the which payment is seldome raised to any higher rate; and withall, this privilege

Husbandmen.

Free-holders.

Workers in
the Mynes.

Farmers.

ledge hath beene granted them of old, that if they be able to furnish themselves with a good horse and compleat armour, being able to serve the king in his warres, so long as they, or yet any of their sonnes serve in this kind, their Manours or Farmes are freed from any manner of payments to the king; and this is the reason why many from their very cradle, as it were, apply themselves to military affaires; by which means also the number of the kings horsemen is wonderfully encreased. Among these are also to be ranked such as worke in mynes in the mountainous and hilly places of the kingdome, who thereby purchase to themselves no small gaine, and are for the most part very rich. The rest of these countrey people are Farmers, who, although besides the set rents they pay their landlords, they performe likewise diuers services; yet by reason of the great benefit and commodity they make by fishing, fowling, and of wood of the Forrests, they reape no small commodity, whereby they are enabled to live in very good fashion according to their owne ranke and degree. For this is to be understood, that this whole kingdome aboundeth with lakes and rivers, full of very wholesome fishes; besides the abundance of woods, which partly in regard of their number, and partly by reason of the remotenesse, yeeld oftentimes but small benefit to the owners: and for the same reason no where are fish and fowle, as also hares cheaper then
in

in this kingdome. It is likewise to be observed, that in all Parliaments, the countrey people, this last and sixt ranke I meane, have a voyce as well as any of the others. And thus it cometh to passe, that the meanest or lowest degree is not neglected, nor no well deserving subject hindered to climbe to as high a pitch of honour, as his vertues can attaine unto.

They have a
voice in Par-
liament.

CHAP. IIII.

Of the Politicke and ciuill government of the Kingdome of Sweden.

IN ancient times each Province of this kingdome had it's severall lawes and constitutions, whereof, as it is supposed, there were diuers authors, whose names, by reason of the long tract of time, are now for the most part buried in oblivion.

And the Vestrogothian lawes are so ancient, that it is apparant they were made at such times as the Goths departed out of this kingdome, or at least shortly after: for there is mention made of the Goths inhabiting Greece and Thracia: to wit, that none of them should enioy or possesse any of their ancient possessions in their owne countrey, unlesse they would returne and dwell
there.

Antiquities
of the Vestro-
gothian lawes

there. And it is apparent that they dwelt there before the times of *Alexander* the great, who, as he affirmed, were to be shunned and taken heede of. Besides, even before the incarnation of our Lord and Saviour, they were such a terror to the Romans, that they were by them much hindered from enlarging their dominion beyond the Danubius. Now these lawes doe for the most part agree with the lawes of the Visigoths, set down by *Isidorus*, although they be farre shorter; for the which cause it is not unlike that these same lawes of *Isidrus* were at the first collected out of the constitution of the Vestrogoths, and after, as the titles testifie enlarged by the kings of the Visigoths of Spaine. Out of all these Provincial lawes and other constitutions of this kingdome, did the Bishops and Senatours thereof above 270 yeares agoe compile this generall law, very agreeable to the law of nature, and not much differing from the civill law, but that by this controverted cases are far speedilier ended. But before we speake any thing concerning their lawes, we will premit some generalities. In this kingdome therefore there are severall principall colledges or societies, which comprehend the whole government of the same.

The first of these is called the Colledge of Iustice, in the which are three degrees or rankes: the supream, the middle most, and lowest of all. In this supream or highest ranke or order, are the noble Senators of the kingdome: in the

next

The whole government of this kingdome comprehended in certaine societies or colledges.
A Colledge or societie of Iustice.

next are such as they call *Lagman*; and in Latin *Nomophylaces*, as if we should say; *Recorders* or *Registers*. In the third ranke or order are the Iudges of particular cities or townes, being men of good esteeme, and of honest life and conversation, and not unskilfull in the lawes of the land. In this supream court are iudged causes of the whole kingdome, as well criminall as civill; and to this supream court, the subject may from any inferiour Court of the kingdome appeale, whereas they determine and iudge whether the inferiour court hath iudged right or no; and from this court there is no appeale, unlesse it be to the king himselfe, in whose power it is either to qualifie the punishment, or to remit the offence. Under this supream court are immediatly subiected and subordinate two others, that of criminall causes, and that of the court or chamber.

The next to this colledge is the colledge of war, wherein are handled all Martiall or Military affaires, and is called the Court marshall or martiall. To this court belongs the Councell of War. wherein are all military matters deliberated and discussed: and over this court presides the great Marshall of the kingdome. His office is, when the king cannot be present in his owne person, as generall to command over the whole army.

This great officer hath with him ioyned divers other associates and colleagues, amongst

G 2

whom

A Colledge or societie is that of warre, or court Marshall.

whom is chiefly he whom they call *Rick-seirs Siigmeister*, as much to say, as master of the Ordnance. Besides, there is also a field marshall, and under him many other commanders, both of the horse and foot forces.

3 Colledge,
the court of
the Chancery

The Lord
Chancellours
office.

The third colledge or court is that of the Chancery; in which are handled all manner of causes both civill and ecclesiasticall. In this Court presides the Lord Chancellour of the kingdome, who hath the chiefe charge of the broad seale, receiveth and readeth all letters sent to the king, and dispatcheth answers. Besides, in the counsell he propoundeth such heads as they are to consult about: and withall he hath the charge of setting downe and publishing all Proclamations; all decrees and acts of Parliament. Hee is also Iudge of al private complaints and appeales from inferiour courts to the King: and finally, he hath the oversight of all the Secretaries, Clerkes, Religious persons, and ecclesiasticall ceremonies; and all controversies and negotiations with forreine Princes, war, peace, and truce receiving messages from forreine Ambassadors, and dispatching their answers. This great officer hath ioyned with him for associates or colleagues, a Vice-chancellour: and divers counsellors of the Chancery, besides the kings Secretaries, with divers others.

4 Colledge,
the Admirall
office.

The fourth Colledge or Court is that of the Admiraltie, over which is the great Lord Admirall; whose office is to overseethe Navy roy-
all,

all, and to see that it be in a readinesse, with all things thereto belonging, against the time of need. He hath under him a Vice-admirall, besides Captaines and Commanders of every ship. To his court belong all causes concerning trespasses against constitutions made for the preservation of the Navy-royal, and many other things concerning maritime affaires.

The fifth and last is the Exchequer, or, as the French call it, the chamber of accounts, where are received all the revenues belonging to the crowne, tributes, customes, subsidies, &c. Over this Court presides the Lord Treasurer of the kingdome, who hath also ioyned with him in commission two others of the Nobility; and to this court belong also a number of clerks, who are chosen out of the inferiour ranke of people. He hath also under his custodie the royall ensignes of the kingdome, the apple, the crowne, the scepter, and the sword. He payes also all the kings armie, and so doth hee all the kings servants their wages, In a word hee takes all, and payes all, being accomptable to no body, but to the king himselfe.

5 Colledge,
the Exche-
quer.

Amongst all the great officers of the kingdome, the Lord Marshall is accounted the chiefe, being master of the kings household, and administrator or orderer of the great counsell; who by the kings authority, hath power to assemble the whole States of the land, to command silence and attention, to give leave to speake in Parlia-
ment,

The Lord
Marshalls of-
fice.

ment, to welcome ofraine Embassadors, and to provide things necessary for their entertainment. To his office also it belongeth to remove out of the counsell such as belong not thereunto, and to see the kings decrees, concerning matters of defamation, and punishment of death duly put in execution. Hee supplyes also the place of the master of the ceremonies, and suppresseth all tumults and disorders. To him belongeth also the oversight of the kings household and domestick servants, and to correct the offenders. And finally, in all publike meetings he beares the great staffe before the king.

Next unto him in dignitie is esteemed the great Lord Constable, the field Marshall, the great Sewer, the Lord Chamberlaine, &c.

Particular division of the Provinces into smaller parts.

Severall Iudges.

Moreover, this whole kingdome is not onely divided into severall Provinces, Duchies, and Counties, but besides each Province is againe subdivided into certaine territories or iurisdictions, commonly called Haradh, of the which, some containe moe, and some fewer parishes. Each Province againe hath its governor or lieutenant called Landz-herren, or State-haller; and each territorie or iurisdiction hath a Iudge called Leensman; and besides, each parish hath a Iudge called Nembdarius, or Nembde-mannus. Now all these are distinct offices, and subordinate one to another, and so may the plaintife appeale from one inferiour court, to a next superiour in due order and forme.

The

The supreame governour or magistrate of the Province is called Legifer, as it were a law-giver and iudge, and are esteemed in dignity next unto the king, as being his iudges and vice-generals. Now as many as are the Provinces, as many are there of these supreame iudges: to eleven, under whom are againe above 300. Vicounties, or particular iurisdictions; not unlike the courts of Parliament of France, and the multitude of presidiall courts. But the difference is, that these supreame Iudges visit every yeare a great part of their Province, untill all their Provinces be visited, and when they have travelled the round, they returne againe where they first began (which the French Parliaments doe not) much after the manner of the Iudges circuits in this kingdome. And as this course is very convenient for the remedying of the publike diseases of the kingdome; so is it also some ease to the subiect, these iudges demanding the tribute and taxes by turnes, and not all at once, of such territories and parishes as they visit, that so the people be not all burdened at one and the same time.

The supreame Iudge Legifer

It is yet further to be observed, that by the ancient customes and constitutions of this kingdome, besides all these aforementioned courts, there was yet one generall court commanded to be kept in foure eminent places of the kingdome once or twice a yeere, for determining and finishing some cases, which by the other Iudges

*Judicium
pretoriale.*

Judges had not bene, or could not so well be decided. And this they call *Judicium Pretoriale*, which was a meeting of many Iudges together, where controversies were duely and strictly examined, and sentence according to equity pronounced. This court was by *Charles* the ninth, father to this now reigning king *Gustavus Adolphus* ordeined to be kept twice a yeere, once in *Vpsalia*, in winter at the time of a great saire then kept; and the other about *Saint Peters* day in summer. The Iudges were without faile to appeare at the place appointed in proper person fixe weekes after the publication of such a meeting. Now whatsoever was in this pretoriall court determined betwixt party and party, was to stand firme and inviolable for ever without appeale to any other court whatsoever.

The Raï or
Court Royall.

And because the king will be sure, that iustice be duely executed in all his dominions, therefore besides all these former courts, there is yet another great and solemne court sometimes kept, called the court Royall or Raï; whereas either the king in proper person, or else a deputy or speciall commissioner heares all the grievances betwixt party and party: and this is a court of reformation, wherein some things which in other courts have not bene so well ordered, are here reformed and amended. And this court I take to be much like that solemne court sometimes kept in the kingdome of Scotland, called the Iustice aire, wherein very small offences were

Iustice heire
of Scotland.

were severely punished. Now the king is fixe weekes before the time of sitting to intimate the same to his subiects. And within 14 dayes after, whosoever hath a complaint against any, he must cause summon his adversary to appeare at the day and place appointed by the kings letters, to that purpose to bee read in the first *Placit* or Court; or where there is none kept, then at the next *Parish Church*. Now if any upon this summons shall refuse to appeare, the king or his vicegerent, shall notwithstanding his non-appearance, (unlesse very iust cause may bee shewed) proceed to sentence against him.

Now as concerning their particular lawes, statutes, and ordinances, the times and turnes of their meetings in Courts of Iustice, the manner of choosing their Iudges, their oaths, and what by them to be observed, as being too long and tedious for this short tractate, I willingly passe by. But if any be desirous to know their particular statute lawes, he may have recourse to their history, and such as have of set purpose collected and set them downe in order. I proceed now to speake of the might and power of this great king, and then by what meanes it is maintained,

H

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

*Of the might and power of the King of
Sweden, as well by Sea as
by land.*

Sea forces.

Number of
Ships.Number
Mariners and
Sailers.

AND first for his sea forces, it is certaine that the king of Sweden (besides his gallies and small ships, whereof in those seas he possesseth no small number) hath beene many yeeres agoe furnished with fifty brave war-ships, upon all occasions ready for service; and many of them furnished with 60. 70. or 80. great peeces of brasse Ordnance; and now questionlesse hee is furnished with a farre greater number. Neither yet is it any hard matter for him to make vp the number of 6000 saile within his dominions, not of rowers and ordinary watermen I meane, but even of expert sailers, pilots, masters of ships, masters mates, &c. For all that tract about the sea coast of Finland, being at least 40. miles in length, together with the coast of the Redeuicke sea twice as long, besides a number of Ilands afford the inhabitants daily meanes of no small commerce and traffiking by sea; by which means the marriners may easily become both bold and expert. Besides, their maintenance is not very charge-

chargeable to the king: for the most of their pay is in fish, flesh, butter and cheese, ryce and barley, such commodities as many of his countries yeeld him for tribute. These ships in time of peace use to be distributed into divers parts of the kingdom. The greatest commonly ly in Stockholme haven, which Port is so fenced against all winds, that there they may safely ride against all winds without any anchors: besides, that there they are also free from any hostile invasion, there being no accessse thither for any ships but by 24. miles sailing, and that by a number of dangerous rockes. The rest of those ships are dispersed into divers other harbours, especially those of Finland, that so they may be alwayes in a readinesse, if peradventure the Russian should make any sudden stirre. Some of them againe are bestowed in such ports and haven townes whereas they may inhibite the importation of such commodities out of high Germany, as might tend to the ruine of the kingdome: and therefore the kings maiesty suffereth no ship to come from thence, unlesse they have first a passe granted them, subscribed with his maiesties owne hand; the which the Merchants of Lubeck often purchase at a round rate. And to conclude, this king is very powerfull by sea.

And no lesse powerfull is he also by land: for he is able in a short space from among his owne subjects to raise a great armie of foot; who by reason of their frequent conflicts sometimes

His land for-
ces.

with the Dane, sometimes with the Russian, but especially with the Polonian, have purchased unto themselves no small experience in military affaires, having infinitely improved the valour and prowesse derived unto them by their ancestors.

This king may in a fortnights space call out twelve legions of well experienced souldiers, (reckoning three thousand to a legion) and may carry them whither he list out of the kingdome, yea if it were even to the very Indians, neither yet is he unfurnished of choice, able, and skilfull horsemen as well in Sweden as in Finland, both these countries being well furnished with exceeding good horses; the which how farre in bulke of body inferiour to those of high Germany, and other nations, so farre perhaps doe they againe surpasse them in bountie. And in truth they are very stout, and in consideration of their low stature, exceeding strong, being accustomed to hard labour, and easily undergoing any travell or toile, and withall contented with any food.

The horses
not bigge in
bulke

This king hi-
reth com-
monly his
horsemen.

The lownesse of their stature hath beene the sole cause that heretofore this king hath most commonly hyred his horsemen out of high Germany, when he was to wage warre against any potent enemy. Now how great forces both of horse, & foot, this mighty Prince is able to bring into the field, may not onely by his late war against the Polonian, but by this late and last expedition

pedition into Germany, undertaken for the freeing of many distressed Princes and people from the tyranny of the *Austrian* house, and restoring them againe to their ancient inheritances, easily be evidenced and witnessed unto us. After ages no doubt will stand amazed at the multitude of his valiant acts, with so great celerity, valour, and magnanimitic atchieved in so short a time, who may well with that great conquerour *Iulius Cesar*, say, *veni, vidi, vici*; and gratefull posteritie will eternize his name so long as sunne and moone shall endure, and blesse the time that so pious and prosperous a Prince was borne to the Christian world. Many things were some yeeres agoe related to the Pope by his *Nuncio* concerning the multitude and distribution of the military forces of this kingdome; concerning their pay also, military discipline, &c. all which, although since that time much improoved, yet for the present I let passe, and proceed to other matters.

CHAP. VI.

*Of customes and tribute belonging to
the king of Sweden,*

NOW to maintaine all this great charge of warre and other expences, there must bee some meanes whereby it may bee effected. For this purpose therefore there are certaine tributes and customes yeerely paid into the kings coffers: and these are of three sorts. The first sort of tribute is that which is raised of his mines; out of the which not onely are digged iron, copper and lead in great abundance, but even silver also, of the which are coined the Swedish dollors, for finenesse of mettall inferior to no other silver whatsoever. Now some of these Mynes are digged at the kings owne cost and charges, and some at the cost of private persons.

Of the first the king hath the whole benefit, and of the latter but the tenth part, as of other commodities.

Of two copper Mines onely, at this time the king receives a very great benefit; and besides, by reason of this abundance of brasle and copper, it cometh to passe that hee is so well able to furnish himselfe with brasle Ordnance; and that

Customes
threecfold.

Customes arising from
his mynes.

that not for his Castles and Forts onely, but for his Ships also: the sum whereof is no lesse then 8000. at the least: and in the Castle of Stockholme alone, there are at least 400. great pieces of brasle Ordnance, and more might yet be made if there were any need. And if the country people did not oftentimes conceal some mines newly found out, the profit which would arise out of these mynes would amount to a farre greater summe.

The next way by which the kings revenues are increased, is from the fruits of the earth, and his customes as well by sea as by land: for the king hath the tythes of all manner of graine, wheate, rye, barley, &c. as also of butter & cheese of beasts, hides, fish, and the like; the certainty of which revenues although it be not to us assuredly knowne; yet no question ariseth it to no small summe, and as is credible, to little lesse then 9. or 10. millions say their writers: but this must be understood of their owne coine and account, not of Sterline money.

Now concerning his customes, the king receiveth custome of all wares transported out of the kingdome, or imported into the same. And that there be no want of good silver coyne within the kingdome, this order hath beene for many yeares agoe established; to wit, that for every hundreth dollors worth of merchandize transported out of the kingdome, they shall pay into the custome-house tenne silver dollors in kind, or else

Great number of brasle
Ordnance.

Customes & revenues arising from the
fruits of the earth.

Customes of all manner of
merchandise.

else tenne ounces of silver; for the which they receiue in present pay the worth in other small copper coine of Swedish money currant within the kingdome.

And for every hundreth dollors worth of wares so transported out of the kingdome, the merchant is tyed to bring into the kingdome againe the worth of 90. dollors of such wares as are usefull for the kingdome; and for these 90. dollors worth of wares, they are to pay into the custome-house tenne dollors, or ten ounces of silver, or else the worth thereof in other money. And whosoever shall faile in any of the premises, for the first fault hee shall pay 20 Swedish markes; and the next time all his wares shall be confiscate.

Customes of
fures and
rich skins.

As for the revenue and custome of rich skins and furs, it is sometimes more, and sometimes lesse, according to the intensenesse and remisenesse of the cold, and the abundance of snow. For the greater is the snow, the greater number of these wild beasts are taken. Out of the country of Lapland the Northermost of all his Provinces the king receives a great number of these skins or rich furs. And to the end he be not couzened, he sendeth thither every yeare an officer, being a clerke, who so narrowly inquireth into the number of these beasts so killed, that very hardly can he be deceived.

These rich furs the king disposeth of among his kindred and friends: and sometimes also
be

hee exchangeth them with merchants, for other wares wherewith they furnish his Court.

The third sort of revenue consisteth in voluntary or arbitrary contributions, answerable to our subsidies and fifteenes in this kingdome. For whensoever the king is to undertake a warre offensive or defensive, he calls a Parliament, wherein he acquainteth the subiect with his purpose, and what charges it is like to arise vnto: and then the States of the kingdome agree vpon a certaine summe answerable to the busines to be undertaken.

The third
sort of cu-
stome or re-
venue, arbi-
trary or vo-
luntary con-
tributions.

But the Nobles and chiefe Gentry, and their tenants are for the most part freed from these impositions, unlesse upon very urgent and important occasions. But if there be an extreame necessitie, and there be not otherwise sufficient supply, then their vassals and tenants are tyed to pay halfe of the taxe or subsidie, as well as those who are immediately subiect to the king himselfe.

Besides all this, the subiect is tyed to contribute to the marriage of the kings daughters, whose dowrie hath been hitherto 100000. dollors, neare upon 40000. pound sterling money, besides plate and other mooveables; unto the which neverthelesse the king may adde at his pleasure as he seeth occasion.

And whensoever the king permits any of his Court deserving subiects to any preferment, he commonly assignes him a certaine number of

country people who are esteemed as his vassalls and subiects, and are to doe him homage, and pay him tribute and certaine duties.

CHAP. VII.

Of the Kings of this countrey of Sweden, with some of their chiefe and memorable Acts.

Most of the Northerne nations have time out of mind had their Kings by election: as the Dane, Swedish, Polonian and Bohemian. The kings of Sweden have beene untill of late yeeres elective. And although it was a matter of no small difficulty among barbarous nations, where *Mars* was more honoured then *Minerva*, and good literature (the means to eternize heroicall worth) scarce heard of in these remote regions, to finde out any thing concerning their kings worth the writing; yet have we the names of divers kings of that nation recorded of old; howbeit a constant and continued succession without any interruption wee cannot reade of.

I In

1 In the first place then they tell us that *Magog* sonne to *Iaphet*, *Noahs* son, the founder of the Scythian nation in Europe, having passed over the Venedicke gulfe into Gothland (by the Latines afterward called by the name of Scythia) reigned over those people called Gete. Others, and that of the more learned ascribe rather the originall of the Goths to *Gomer Iaphets* eldest sonne, and make those two nations Goths and Gete, different and distinct nations.

2 Vnto *Magog*, as they write, succeeded *Swennus*, from whom the nation tooke the name. ^{1 King Magog} ^{2 Swennus.}

3 *Getbar*.

4 *Vbbo*, who as they write, builded *Vpsalia* before *Abraham* was borne. And from that time untill our Lord and Saviour they reckon up 35. kings, and distinguish them all by their severall names; and many of those, for their sanctitie of life, and conspicuous and eminent vertues, were by the rude rimes of those dayes highly commended. And besides these, divers other kings are yet recorded to have reigned over those, who under the command of one *Berico*, for feare of intestine warre, fled their owne countrey, and among thole mention is made of one king of the Getes in order. ^{3 Getbar.} ^{4 Vbbo.}

22 *Calison* by name, to whom *Augustus Cesar* betroathed his daughter *Iulia*; about the which time also *Antonius* demanded his daughter in marriage, as may cleerely appeare

by *Suetonius* in the life of *Augustus*. Moreover, about the time of our Savior reigned *Ericus* the third, surnamed *Disertus*, who for his worth and merit attained to this government. To this *Ericus* succeeded to the government of the Swedish nation,

40 *Ericus* d. c.
3.

41 *Godrichus* his sonne; and next to him

42 *Haldanus*.

42 *Haldanus*; during the reigne of this king, lived that monster of strength, for the same cause called *Starcherus*, who is said at singular combats to have killed that great champion *Ham*, which afterwards gave denomination to that famous City *Hamburg*. After those is a long catalogue of their kings recorded, but nothing concerning their acts worth the reading recorded, that nation then standing more upon the point of valour and honour, then upon penning of them for posteritie.

But farre more fortunate have they beene in their torreine expeditions and transmigrations, when as like a great deluge and inundation they overflowed a great part of the world under the names of *Ostrogoths*, and *Westrogoths*, and under the commandement of *Theodoricus*, *Attalarique*, *Totila*, *Ataulphus*, &c. whose martial and heroicall exploits the Romans highly advancing, and lest they should conceale their owne worth, have published to all posteritie.

100 *Biorno*.

Vnder *Biorno* their 100 home-bred king, *Lewes* sonne to *Charles* the great, swaying the scepter of the Westerne Empire this nation of Sweden

first

first received the Christian faith, *Sanctus Angerius* a monke of *Gorbey* much furthering then this so worthy a worke, *Author est Ludolphus de Bebenburg in libro de zelo religionis Christiane*.

CHAP. VIII.

124 *Ericus Sanctus* or the holy, after whom the posteritie of *Suercherus* and *Ericus* by turnes with much contention, as the one or the other grew strongest usurped the government. This pious Prince, notwithstanding his great agnitie and pietie, and paines taken in an expedition to convert the *Finlanders* to the faith, had but a slender reward, being bulled by a conspiracy of some of his Nobility, *Henry* King of *Denmarke*, and *Magnus* his sonne being the ring-leaders of this faction, *An. 1160*.

124 *Ericus*
Sanctus d. c.

125 *Charles* sonne to *Starcherus*, having raigned two yeeres during the raigne of *Ericus* over the *Ostrogoths* (who in the election of a king dissenting from the Swedish had chosen one of their owne) and afterwards for the space of 8. yeares, very religiously and vertuously over both kingdomes, but being now hated by reason of his friendship with the Dane, was at length by *Canutus* sonne to *S. Ericus*, (being by some perswaded that this *Charles* with the helpe of the

125 *Charles* d. c.

I 3

Dane,

Dane had contrived his fathers death) killed in in the lland of Vifnuga 1108.

123 Canutus.

126 Canutus sonne to S. *Ericus*, having done penance for killing king *Charles*, and being by the discreet counsell of the Bishop of Lunden, diverted from assailing the Dane, dyes 1192.

127 Stercherus

127 *Stercherus* sonne to *Charles*, a martiall man, wise and eloquent, itching for revenge on the posterity of *Canutus*, having altered his former nature, & gathered great forces out of Denmarke, was at length with his whole army utterly overthrowne, and againe in another bloudy battle himselfe killed 1210.

223 Ericus 3.

128 *Ericus* sonne to *Canutus* having escaped *Stercherus* his hands, raigned very prosperously for the space of 7. yeares, the which 7 yeares histories mention to have been exceeding fruitfull; but in the eight yere with the death of their king, this fruitfulness was also finished 1216.

129 Iohn 1.

129 *Iohn* sonne to *Stercherus*, a very pious young man, of exceeding great hopes, dyed notwithstanding within three yeares after 1222.

130 Ericus Balbus.

130 *Ericus Balbus* sonne to the nephew of S. *Ericus*. Against him conspires his kinsman *Folchings*, expelling him out of his kingdome, but within a short space the tyde turning, he being killed, he left *Ericus* the peaceable possession of the kingdome; after this he converts his forces against the *Tavastians*, sending against them the Prince of the *Ostrogths*, a man of very eminent vertues; whom after hee had subdued and converted, he dyes 1150.

Val.

131 *Valdemarus*, by meanes of a valiant souldier *erluanus Blaa*, during his fathers absence, was elected king. The father being returned from this expedition against the *Tavastians*, alledged, that the crowne was rather due to himselfe then to his sonne: but being terrified by the stout answer of this brave souldier (who affirmed that he could shake a king of Sweden out of his ierkin, if as *Birgers* alledged, there should want one to succeed) he was contented to be his sonnes governour, wherein he discharged himselfe very worthily.

But by the fathers death, this young king being now left to himselfe, by the perswasion of his wife being a Dane, hee deales very harshly with his owne brothers, untill at length he was taken prisoner by his brother *Magnus*, being therein borne out by the Swedish themselves, and was also shortly after by the Peeres of the kingdome deprived of the kingdome of Gothland, which his brothers kindnesse had hitherto suffered him to enjoy.

132 *Magnus Ladolos* in the yeare 1276. succeeded his brother: *Valdemarus*, by the Danes meanes notwithstanding not ceasing still to molest him, yet after a once or twice dissembled reconciliation, at length by the captivity of *Valdemarus* the controversie was composed. Hee much wronged himselfe in setting strangers, the Danes especially, over the affaires of the kingdome: for at a friendly feast (as he supposed)

the

131 Valde-
marus.

132 Magnus
Ladolos 1.

the Danes, not regarding sacred hospitality, tooke him prisoner.

And besides, he drew upon himselfe the implacable hatred of the whole Swedish nation, but principally of the family of *Folchings*, against whom he bare a great grudge: and therefore having cunningly under the color of friendship invited them to a feast, he murdered those of chiefe note, and almost extinguished the whole race of *Folchings*. But towards the latter end of his life, he much reformed his former carriage, giving himselfe wholly to Gods worship and service, dyed in the Ile of *Visingia*, having left his sonne to succeed him, and *Turgillus Canuti* to be his governour and guide.

133 *Birgerus*.

133 *Birgerus* sonne to *Magnus*, a dishonour both to himselfe, and the whole Swedish nation, the ruine and overthrow of his owne brethren (a prodigious and unnaturall part) the beginning of his raigne having promised better proceedings, after the rejecting of *Turgillus*, his cruell nature began to discover it selfe. For having at first accused his brethren of treason, hee afterwards by force of armes assaulted them, by whom being first taken prisoner, after a counterfeit reconciliation, having invited them to a feast, he layes violent hands on them, thrusts them into a dungeon there to dye of famine, and lest there should be any hope of succour, throws the key into a deepe river running hard by. The which barbarous and inhumane crueltie, being odious

odious both to the Swedish and Gothish nation, they tooke armes and expelled him out of the kingdome, who together with his wife, died miserably in Denmarke.

134 *Magnus Smech*, sonne to *Ericus* slaine by his brother *Birgerus*, in the yeere 1319. succeeded in the government, who no whit terrified by his Uncles example, trod still in the same footsteps; in so much that for his contempt of religion, prodigious lust and barbarous cruelty, he was called a robber or spoyler (*Predo*) which was the clogie he purchased to himselfe, making a shew that he would admit of his sonne *Ericus* for a consort in his government, secretly subornes one to kill him; which being prevented, yet his owne mother *Blanca* a French woman poysons him.

134. Magnus Smech.

2

Being taken prisoner by *Hagwinus* the second king of Norway, but presently againe let goe, he flies into Denmarke, and causing intercept his sonnes spouse Dutches of Holstein, by force obtrudes upon him *Margaret* the Danes daughter: and in the meane time while he is providing great forces against his subiects, hee thunders out proscription against them.

135 But in the meane time *Albert* of Meckelburg, nephew to *Magnus* by his sister, is by the proscribed Nobles elected king, and shortly after at Stockholme confirmed. Being now settled in the throne royall he proffers agreement to *Magnus*, who refusing the same, and being all

135. Albert of Meckelburg.

K

for

for warre, was at length taken prisoner, and so kept close for the space of whole seven yeeres, untill he was by his sonne *Haguinus* released. After this, being returned from a Parliament held at Wismare, he began to contemne & despise his subiects, of whom, in requitall, he was as little regarded, whom now they could not endure. He was shortly after intangled in warre against Queene *Margaret*, to whose side some did incline, wherein he was taken prisoner, and detained captive whole seven yeeres, and at length forced to release his subiects of their oath of fidelitie.

136 *Margaret* the Dane, and wife to *Haguin* king of Norway, was now in the yeare 1395 Queene of three kingdomes: a woman indeede of a high and magnanimous spirit, if shee had bent her will the right way, & vertuous designe had beene the utmost end she aymed at. But she, making no more account of any oath shee had sworne (whereunto notwithstanding shee was very forward) then of childrens sport, with insatiable covetousnesse spoyling all, and delivering up the Castles and strong holds of the kingdome into the hands of strangers, being extremely hated of the Swedish, fled into Denmarke, after she had by terrors and threatnings obtained the kingdome for one *Ericus*, her own sisters sonne, a young man about twenty foure yeeres of age. When she was admonished that shee should not commit the custody of the forts and

ca-

castles of the kingdome into strangers hands, it was her answer, keepe you well your evidences, and I will have a care to keepe your castles. She dyed and was buried at Flensburg, *Ann.* 1412.

137 *Ericus* Duke of Pomerania did too much rellish of the perfidious practises of his aunt, keeping no covenant, vexing the Nobility with with warre, spoyling and impoverishing his subiects at home, and marring all commerce abroad, was therefore opposed by *Eugelbertus* of a Noble and Princely family; and he by Danish treachery being supplanted, *Carolus Canuti* took upon him the government of the Realme. Having fled into Denmarke, and at length odious also to the Dane, sometimes attempting, and sometimes againe despairing of his returne in his kingdome (which notwithstanding upon keeping of covenant was still ready to receive him) at length in his returne hee tooke in Gothland, whereby he might the more easily robbe all the ships sailing towards the North. But being at length by *Carolus Canuti* besieged, and now not daring trust the Danes, hee fled into his owne countrey of Pomerania, and there spent the rest of his dayes in peace and quietnesse, *Anno* 1437.

138 *Christopherus*, Prince Palatine of Rhene, and Duke of Bavaria, and sisters sonne to *Ericus*, against whom by the Danes meanes he was inticed to come, and yet not without great doubting and deliberation, and the Danes great com-

K 2

men-

137 *Ericus*
Duke of Po-
merania 7.

138 *Christo-*
pherus Prince
Palatine of
Rheine and
Duke of Ba-
varia,

mendation would the Peeres give their assent to his election.

The faire sunne-thine of the beginning of this Princes reigne were eftsoone by the Swedish supplanting one another overclouded. Hee had once a conflict with the English, wherein he had the better; and afterwards labouring to take in Lubecke, and being disappointed of his purpose, he suffered shipwracke on the Swedish shore, after which hee lost all hope of taking in these townes of the Vandals. For his lust and other wickednesse the land was punished with pestilence and famine: and afterwards having by sea lost his great treasures he had with him carryed out of the country, at length in Denmarke hee dyed childlesse 1448.

139. Carolus
Canuti.

139. *Carolus Canuti*, after this nation had been some yeeres without a king, was by the Peeres of the land now loathing a forreine yoake, crowned king 1458. After he was come to the crowne, he subdued Norway; and being afterwards invaded and assaulted by the Dane, hee damnifies him exceedingly. By reason of the insolency and misdemeanour of his governours and officers, and by the instigation of the Archbishop of Upsalia, especially, the people of the land rebelled, and rose up in armes against him; and in the meane time that he went to Dantzick for succour from the king of Poland, they bring in and crowne *Christiernus* king of Denmarke. But in the meane time *Catillus* Bishop of Lin-

piæ,

piæ, and nephew to the Archbishop, of a Prelate now becomes a man of warre, and gathering together what forces he was able, expells out of the kingdome both *Christierne* (who kept no covenant, nor yet performed any promise) and all his favourers and adherents: and at length in a memorable battle fought upon the ice, overthrowes *Christierne*, and puts his whole army to rout. After this the Bishop calls the king home out of Prussia, who being now returned, and having againe recovered the peoples love and good will, and growne now wiser to his cost, he places over them such officers as might give them better content. At length graced and adorned with as many worthy vertues as dayes and yeares in reigning, dyes in 1470.

After this *Charles* some reckon *Christierne* for 140. *Iohn* his sonne 141. and *Christierne Iohns* son 142. although others are of opinion they were titular kings onely, and rather intruders then true kings, and therefore the next shall be,

140. *Stena Sture*, sisters sonne to the aforesaid *Charles*, not onely repelled *Christierne* and his army, now approached neere unto the walls of Stockholme, but put both himselfe & his whole army to flight, and kept him from invading the countrey any more.

140. Stena
Sture.
I

He subdued also afterward the same kings sonne *Iohn*, by means of some disagreement betwixt him and *Swanto* by the helpe of the Russians and some factious people brought in and

K 3

crowned.

crowned. At length bringing back the captive Queene to her husband *Iohn*, being then in *Sma-landia*, having sickned at a feast, dyed the 30. yeare of his reigne. A great 'magnanimous and vertuous Prince, but yet in this, as it were, exceeding himseife, in that hee refused the diademe royall being offered.

141 *Swanto*.

141 *Swanto*, Prince of the *Ostrogoths*, and a counsellor of the kingdome was elected king of the *Suctians*. Having made a confederacy with those of *Lubecke*, he made warre against *Christerne* the second, sonne to *Iohn* (whom many, (for the hatred they bare to the sonne,) did earnestly desire) against whom while as hee is making great preparation, hee dyes 1512, and of his raigne the 8. He was a vertuous Prince, liberall, mild, intermingled with a gratefull severitic.

142 *Steno Sture*.

142 *Steno Sture*, younger sonne of *Swanto* succeeded in the government. This Prince by his prudence escaped the lying in wait of *Christerne* king of *Denmarke*, having sent to the private conference wherunto he was solicited, *Gaddus* and *Gustavus Ericson*. Afterwards stoutly and valiantly opposing *Christerne*, now come into the field with a very great army, and himseife valiantly fighting, was at length shot thorow with a gunne.

He being now dead, and the Swedish dispersed and scattered, *Christerne*, by the Nobles of the Danish faction was crowned king; having at

a

a banquer the very day of his coronation, killed all the Nobility by him suspected to bee of the contrary faction. But by reason of his extraordinary cruelty, the same moneth he came, was againe expelled the kingdome.

Now before we proceed to the orderly succession of the ensuing kings, something may bee said concerning the king of *Denmarke*, and the originall of the claime he layes to the crowne of *Sweden*. *Christerne* the 1. of that name (of whom something hath been said already, the whole royall race of *Denmark* being now quite extinguished, of an Earle of *Oldenburg*, by the consent of the Peeres of the kingdome, was elected king, and installed in the throne Royall, and that chiefly by the commendation of *Adolphus* of *Holsatia* his mothers brother, and afterwards there arising some broyles and tumults in the kingdome of *Sweden*, the factious of the kingdome, of whom was chiefe *Iohannes Benedictus* Archbishop of *Vpsalia*, having before reiected their naturall king *Carolus Canutus*: and is the pretended right the Dane claimes to the kingdome of *Sweden*.

After his decease *Iohn* his sonne for the space of thirty two years continued king of *Denmark*. He was in like manner by the factious *Geths* elected king of *Sweden*, after they had reiectd *Steno* the elder, who had succeeded his mothers brother *Charles*: but was in a short space after by *Swanto* (being the meanes of *Hemmingus Gaddus*

Something concerning the title the kings of *Denmarke* pretend to the crowne and kingdome of *Sweden*.

the Bishop of Lincopia, by the consent of the States of the land elected in the roome of *Steno*, againe driven out, and in many conflicts being still put to the worse, at length fled into Denmarke.

This *Suanto* shortly after dying, the Peeres of the kingdome after greatafteration (the Danish faction willing to set against him *Ericus Trollus*) the memory of paternall worth and vertue prevailing, made choice of *Steno Sture*, the younger sonne of the aforesaid *Suanto*. Two yeares after the death of *Suanto Christierne* the second, succeeded in the kingdome of Denmarke, the greatest scourge that ever befell the kingdome of Sweden, who presently resolves to prosecute the pretended right, his father and grandfather had to this crowne,

Steno their new elected king seeing himselfe now, as he thought, settled in the peaceable possession of the kingdome, giving too much care to flatterers (often too frequent in Princes Courts) and by their evill counsel seduced, committed many grosse and fowle faults in his government; by which meanes there following an alienation of the minds of the Nobility, he lost likewise at length the love of many of the commons also.

The Dane who left no wind unfailed to bring his purpose to passe, thinking it now good fishing in a muddy water, took eftsoone hold of this opportunity, and gathering together a great army,

army, he begirt Stockholme round about: but *Steno* likewise with a great army opposing him, raised the siege.

The wind in the meane time being contrary for his returne into Denmarke, for the space of three moneths he was put to an extreame great strait for want of provision for his army. *Steno*, who used all possible meanes to winne his love and favour, with all meanes of necessary provision for his countrey into Denmarke, supplied his present necessitie, granting him free leave to returne without any trouble or molestation. But this so great a curtesie and kinnesse was but ill requited. For foure yeares after, having about some matters of great importance, as he pretended, desired private conference with *Steno*, hee had almost yeilded to goe aboard the enemies ship.

A great ingratitude.

Being then thus prevented, he wished *Steno* to send him some men of note as Ambassadors to conferre with him: and having sent *Gaddus* and *Gustavus* sonne to *Ericus*, and after king, against his oath and promise, carries them both captive into Denmarke.

This was but the beginning of the next yeres Tragedie.

Having then the next yeare gathered together a farre greater army then the former, he invaded the country of the Vestrogoths, and the battell being fought upon the ice, *Steno* being shot thorow the thigh with a gunne, dyes shortly after of

L

this

Christierne
the 2 invades
the countrey
of Sweden.

this wound, upon which followed the dissipation and dispersing of the Swedish army. Immediately after was *Christierne* by the Danish faction, in the principall city Stockholme elected and crowned king: having also after a solemne manner sworne the confirmation of all their privileges, and promised immunitie and pardon for whatsoever was past.

But the same day (fearing lest afterwards in his absence the sonnes of *Steno* might by the contrary faction be elected) having first commanded the gates of the City to be shut up, and invited to a feast the chiefe of all the Nobility of the contrary faction, in the sight of all the people, now trembling and quaking for feare, slew 94. of them, leaving their dead bodies in the great Court before the towne hall for the space of three dayes for a terrour to the people. The dead body of *Steno* was by the tyrants command taken out of the grave, and (as some write) after he had like a dogge torne it with his teeth, commanded to burne ~~it~~ to ashes with the others lately killed. The inhabitants were also by the rude souldiers, without any regard of sexe or age cruelly killed and murdered; and young children being hung up, their heads were cut off from their shoulders. The City was rifled and spoiled by the souldiers, and no manner of outrage and insolency omitted. After his departure from thence as some write) he went into a monasterie, where he was entertained after the best manner the Monkes

Excessive
barbarous
cruelty.

More then
inhumane
cruelty.

Monkes were able: but after service, being Candelmasse day, he commanded to take the Abbot and all his Monkes, tying them hand and foot, and threw them into a deepe river running by: the Abbot having by some meanes untied himselfe was swimming 'a shore; which being by him perceived, he caused to follow him with a boat and kill him.

Having thus committed many ontrages and insolencies, the people of the land being much therewith distasted, tooke courage, and about some 30000. in armes pursued him, now fleeing and marching more by night then by day, untill at length he came into Denmarke. Being now so embred in bloud, he could not refraine from crueltie even against his owne kindred, he was at length assaillited by *Frederick* Prince of Holstein, and those of Lubecke, and his conscience now affrighting him, with his wife *Isabella* the Emperours sister and his children, fies into Zealand, which was the third yeare after the massacre of Stockholme. 1523

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CHAM.

CHAP. IX.

143 *Gustavus
Erickson* 1.

124 *Gustavus* 1. called *Erickson*, or sonne of *Ericus*, after long imprisonment. escaping out of prison, fled speedily out of Denmark, and was at length by the generall consent of the States now surviving, accepted for king of the Realme; being thereunto well furthered by those of the City of Lubecke, which supplied him with store of money.

This noble and praise-worthy Prince lived and reigned very peaceably with the love and good liking of his subjects the whole space of 38. yeares, and dyed in 1560.

Reformation
of religion in
the king-
dome of Swe-
den, An. 1556

The most memorable of his acts (and was it not memorable indeed?) was that hee banished out of his whole kingdome and dominions the superstitious worship of the Church of Rome, and thorow his whole dominions caused them to professe the reformed religion, according to the confession of *Ausbourg* or *Augustane* confession. And because we account the Danes usurpation to have beene a right possession, therefore according to Historians we make him to follow in order 143. immediatly after *Steno*, whose daughter some say he married, howbeit if he so did, we reade of no issue he had by her.

The

The first wife therefore by whom he had any issue, was *Katharine* daughter to *Magnus*, Duke of Saxony, and by her he had 1. *Ericus* who succeeded him in his government. His second wife was *Margaret*, daughter to a noble knight *Abraham Lobeln*, governour of *Vestrogothia*, whom he married An. 1536. who bare unto him these children following.

1 *Iohn* afterwards king of Sweden.

2 *Katharine*, married to the Earle of East-Friesland 1559. and bare to him *Enno*, *Gustavus*, *Iohn* and *Christopher*, Earles of East Friesland.

3 *Cecilie*, married to *Christopher* Marquesse of Baden 1564. to whom she bare *Edward* called the Fortunate, *Christopher*, *Constans* and *Philip*.

4 *Magnus*, Duke of Ostrogothia, and dyed 1595.

5 *Steno*, and dyed a child.

6 *Anna*, married to *George Iohn*, Count Palatine of Rhene, and Duke of Bavaria 1564. to whom she bare *George*, *Gustavus*, *Iohn*, *Ruphel*, *Anna*, *Margaret*, and *Vrsula*, married to the Duke of Wirtemberg.

7 *Charles*, who presently dyed.

8 *Sophia*, married to *Magnus* Duke of Saxony 1568. and bare to him *Gustavus* Duke of Saxony, who dyed at Holmia 1597.

9 *Elizabeth*, married to *Christopher*, Duke of Meckelburg, who had by her one only daughter, called *Margaret*, & married to the Megapolitane Duke.

L 3

10 *Charles*

10 *Charles*, Duke of Sudermania, &c.

This fruitfull Queene dyed in the yeare 1551.

After her decease he married againe *Katharine* daughter to *Gustavus Olaus*, Baron of Torpa, 1552. but had by her no children.

141 *Ericus* 3.

144 *Ericus* succeeded his father *Gustavus*, and was crowned in Stockholme 1561. This king for a certaine time waged warre against the Danes and city of Lubecke, and drew upon himselfe the hatred and evill will of all his neighbours: and as though this had yet beene but a small matter, he irritated his own people, whom he exceedingly discontented.

His brother *John* who had married *Katharine*, sister to *Sigismund*, king of Polands widow, did altogether mislike his brothers turbulent courses and enterprizes; who in his returne from Revalia into Livonia, left with the Polonian king his kinsman a great summe of money, for the which this being put into his hands as a pledge, certaine castles and commanderies in the countrey of Livonia.

This fact his brother (otherwise very suspicious) interpreted in the worst sense, as though his brother had beene combined and joyned in league with the Dane and Polonian, and for this cause with his whole forces assaults his brother, takes himselfe, wife, and whole family prisoners in a towne of Finland, called *Ako*, brings them all with him to Stockholme, where having first openly accused him, he cast him in-

to

to prison, where he continued for the space of foure whole yeares: besides, that he put to death many of his familiar friends and acquaintance. But at the foure yeares end the case is quite altered, his brother finding a meanes to free himselfe out of prison, takes his brother captive, and makes him drinke of the same cup he had before made him begin, with keeping him in close prison during his whole life time 1568.

145 *Ericus* thus iustly thrust out of his throne, his brother was with the unanimous, free and generall consent of the whole State elected king in his brothers turne. 145 *John* 2.

During his reigne he had also great war with but especially with the Dane, the Muscovite or Russian. He was born 1537. and crowned 1569: He married first *Katharine* daughter to *Sigismund*, king of Poland, by whom he had,

1. *Sigismund*, now king of Poland.

2. *Anne*.

After this Queenes decease, he married one *Gunila*, daughter to one *Axelurs Bielke de Hertsjeter*, a noble Knight and governour of Ostrogothia, whom he married 1585. and by whom he had

1 *John*, who in the yeare 1612. married *Mary Elizabeth*, daughter to *Charles* the 9. King of Sweden.

2 *Charles*, borne 1550. first Duke of Sudermania, *Neriva* and *Vermelandia*, and afterwards also elected king of Sweden.

1 This

This king *John* constantly maintained the same religion of the *Augustane* confession, which his father had formerly professed; although underhand he suffered his sonne *Sigismund* by his mother *Katharine* to be educated in the Romish religion, which cost him no lesse then the losse of his kingdome of Sweden, as hereafter shall appeare.

And the better to secure his subiects of his constant perseverance in the religion he professed, he gave them his brother *Charles*, Duke of Finland (whom he loved dearly) for a pledge or pawne, that no innovation should therein be attempted, whom he also appointed by his last will and testament, during his sonnes absence, to be gouvernour of the whole kingdome. This king dyed in the year 1592. 19. of November.

246 *Sigismundus*, sonne to the aforesaid *John*, being before during his fathers life time in 1590 beene designed and appointed king of Poland (being during his fathers life time, elected king of Poland, where he also lived and reigned at the time of his fathers death) was in the year 1599 crowned king of Sweden, and the very day of the Epiphanie was appointed for this purpose. Now there was in the kings company one *Franciscus mala spina*, Bishop of Vrlia in Italy, the Popes *Nuncio*, whom the king and his followers much desired to performe the solemne rites of the Coronation: and this Prelate was of opinion, that if the States of Sweden had once given way

146 *Sigismundus*.

way to this beginning, the Romish religion might more easily afterwards be againe introduced. But against this with might and maine did *Adamus Andracanus*, then Archbishop of Vpsalia oppose, affirming, that it was flat against the lawes and constitutions of the kingdome that any other but the Archbishop of Vpsalia should set the diademe royall upon his head: and besides, that he must now sweare to maintain that religion now professed within the kingdome of Sweden, according to the *Augustane* confession, exhibited to *Charles* the first Emperour, professed by his grandfather *Gustavus*, and his owne father *John* the 3. and by a late synod holden at Vpsalia, by the whole states of the kingdome confirmed; and that he shall not assigne or grant any Church or Churches in any towne of Sweden to any other religion then that of the *Augustane* confession. And further, that during the time of his abode in Sweden, he should be contented with the service performed within the private chapell of his owne palace. Against this did oppose the Peeres and Nobles of Poland that accompanied the king: howbeit the Peeres of Sweden were resolute in their purpose, insomuch that some dayes were thus spent in alteration. At length about mid January, seeing no remedy, it was agreed that the bishop of Vpsalia should performe such rites as belonged to the coronation, which was accordingly performed.

The oath of
Sigismund.

Ericus Sparce also Chancellour of the kingdome, administred unto the king his solemne oath; he reciprocally answering him, and promising first, that he would maintaine iustice and truth within his kingdome, and that he would punish and suppress all iniustice and lying, that he would doe iustice to all the Swedish nation, as well rich as poore, and that according to the lawes and statutes of the kingdome, he should governe the same, and that by the counsell and consent of his brother Prince *Charles*, and the senate or counsell of the kingdome, that he shall consult with the natural inhabitants of the kingdome, and not with strangers: that hee shall bring no strangers within the realme; that hee shall commit the castles and forts of the kingdome, and the deserts of *Vpsalia* to none but the natives of the countrey; that he shall impose no new tribute or tax upon the subject; unlesse in case of great necessitie for the defence of the kingdome, in feare of any intestine commotion or sedition: when the kings sonne or daughter is to be marryed, when the king is to make any solemne perambulation thorow his whole kingdome, or something for the reparation of the desarts of *Vpsalia* shall be required.

Moreover, that he should confirme all privileges and immunities heretofore granted to the Peeres of the land, the whole people and the clergie thereof, and that by all meanes possible, he should procure peace and tranquillitie to all his

his subiects; adding lastly this clause to the oath, *So God be good to my soule and body as I from my heart sweare to observe all the premisses.*

After this was a solemne assembly of the whole States of the kingdome, or a Parliament called at *Stockholme*, wherein was consulted of the goverment of the kingdome, during the kings absence, and divers good and wholesome lawes enacted.

In the moneth of Iuly next after the king departed againe into *Poland*.

But some few yeares after, hee was by the same States againe abdicated and quite reiected from ever having any right or interest in the government of the kingdome of *Sweden*, and was in a Parliament holden at *Stockholme* 1590. confirmed.

Abdication
of king Sigf.
mund.

And againe, in another Parliament holden at *Lincopia* 1600. as well he himselfe as all his issue and off-spring are for ever excluded from the succession to the kingdome of *Sweden*. The reasons were diuers, but especially for sending an army of strangers into the countrey, quite contrary to his oath and promise; the which, if their plot had taken effect, might have overthrowne the whole State, besides the ruine of religion. There were divers other causes published in print, as the story mentions, the which I have not as yet scene. But withall in the abdication of this king, this condition was inserted, that if within sixe moneths after the finishing of

An act against
the accepting
of a forreine
kingdome,
unlesse he re-
linde himselfe
in Sweden.
His warres a-
gainst Den-
marke and
Russia,

that no hereditary Prince, and heire apparant to the crowne of Sweden, shall hencefoorth accept of any forreine kingdome, unlesse he resolve nevertheless to live and continue in the same kingdome of Sweden.

This noble king after he came to the Crown, waged warre with the king of Denmarke, and at one and the same time with the Russian also. For *Iuan Wasilienitz Snski*, with many of the Peeres being in his chiefe City Mosco very straitly besieged by the Polonians, hee sent for aide and succour to this *Charles* king of Sweden; there being then great danger, not of the losse of the king and his Nobles onely, but even of the utter overthrow and ruine of his whole dominion.

This Prince therefore sent with great expedition under the command of *Iairus de la Garde*, Earle of Leccho, and Arch-marshall of the kingdome of Sweden, a great army, wherewith he raised the siege, overthrew the enemies forces, and set at libertie this distressed Prince, and all his Peeres.

The aforesaid *Snski* making shew of a gratefull acknowledgement of so great a kindnesse received, not onely promised, but also sealed some deeds, whereby hee freely gave unto this king *Charles*, and to his heires and successors kings of Sweden for ever, certaine territories and lordships, together with the townes, castles, and forts thereunto belonging. But the perfor-

mance was not answerable to promise: for this unthankfull perfidious Prince sent secretly to the captaine of one of his castles, wishing him with some forces to intercept those deeds, together with the money agreed upon for the souldiers pay. King *Charles*, by such an iniury irritated (and blame him not) raises againe new forces, invades the countrey (the Polonian having now likewise seized upon Mosco the chiefe City) he takes in Rexholme, and possesse himselfe of a great part of the countrey round about. But while he is now in the midst of his good success, behold cruell *Atropos* suddenly cuts the thread of his life, and so by this meanes, together with his hereditarie dominions leaves likewise this warre to be finished by his sonne *Gustavus Adolphus*, at this time king of Sweden, whereof more hereafter.

He dyed of a great sicknesse in a warre against Denmarke: *An. 1611. Octob. 30.*

His first wife was *Mary* daughter to *Lewes* Elector, and Count Palatine of Rhene, whom he married, *An. 1579*, and had by her,

1 *Margaret Elizabeth*, and died at the age of 5 yeares.

2 *Elizabeth Sabina*, who dyed also young.

3 *Lewes*, who died instantly after his birth.

4 *Katharine*, borne in 1584. and in 1614. married to the illustrious prince *Iohn Casimir*, Prince Palatine of Rhene, and Duke of Bavaria.

5. *Gustavus*, who dyed a child.

6. *Mary*, who dyed also young.

This vertuous Queene dyed of her selfe in the yeere 1580.

His second wife was *Christina*, daughter to *Adolphus*, Duke also of Holfatia, who bare to him

1 *Christina*, who lived not long.

2 *Gustavus Adolphus*, the illustrious and victorious king of Sweden, and born in anno 1594 Decemb. 9.

3. *Mary Elizabeth* 1596. who in the yeare 1612. was married to *Iohn*, an hereditary Prince of the kingdome, and Duke of Ostrogothia.

4. *Charles Philippe*, a hereditary Prince, and Duke of Sudermania, Nericia, and Vermlandia 1601.

He dyed in Livonia unmarried.

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

Of the Noble, Illustrious, and invincible Prince, great Gustavus Adolphus, the 2. King of Sweden, Goths, and Vandals, &c. and some of his Acts before his entering into Germany.

148 *Gustavus Adolphus* borne the ninth of Decemb. 1594. as said is, being but of a tender age for the swaying of the scepter royall, his father dying in 1611. he being then but 17. yeares of age, was crowned in 1617: Considering then his young yeares, and laying them in one scale, and the waight of affaires lying on his shoulders in the other, we may most iustly wonder and admire at Gods might and power in making him a fit instrument to effect such matters, as I doubt not but after-ages shall admire the same. In the yeare 1620. he married *Mary Elinor*, sister to the illustrious Prince *George William*, Marquis of Brandenburg, one of the Princes Electors of the sacred Empire, who although she bare him some children, yet lived they not long.

148 *Gustavus Adolphus* 2.

long. In the yeare 1624. she bare him a daughter,

1. *Christina*, but dyed the same yeare.

The next yeare after she bare him againe another daughter, called also

2. *Christina*, yet living, and in the yeare 1627 she was in a Parliament then holden at Stockholme, declared here apparent to the crowne of Sweden. It hath been a little before related how his father *Charles* the ninth of that name died, during his warre with Denmarke; and withall hath beene shewed, how at the same time the same Prince had hot warre with the Prince of Russia: by which may easily appeare into what a labyrinth of troubles was this young king at his first comming to the crowne involved. In both these warres he carryed his affaires so well, that thorough the helpe of Almighty God he hath procured himselfe ever since a firme and inviolable peace with that great Prince. He had with the Dane divers conflicts, yet alwayes demeaned himselfe so worthily that he came off with great honour and credit; so that at length that great king seeing hee had to meddle with his match, was willing to accoodate his Martiall thoughts, to entertaine a treatie of peace: and so these two great Princes of mortall enemies, became loving and kind friends, and have since confirmed a strait league of amity and friendship. As for the Russian Prince, he had with him yet some greater difficulty to undergoe, there resting some strong,

His war with
the king of
Denmarke.

strong, and almost impregnable places to be taken, and the evidences concerning such territories, as the Russian had, for good consideration, assigned his father, to bee recovered. And although my purpose bee not particularly to enlarge my selfe upon all the severall occurrences of this warre; yet are there in the same, some things to be observed, not unworthy the readers consideration, wherof I will give but a touch.

After his fathers decease then, having settled the affaires of his kingdome at home, although he had to deale with so potent an enemy as the king of Denmarke, as hath beene said already; yet did he not neglect this warre against the Russian; and for this purpose prepared a great army to prosecute that which his father had left unfinished. Now it is to bee understood that these forts and places hee tooke in from the Russian Prince, are the strongest holds, and as it were, the very keyes of all the Russian dominion. That countrey is corruptly called *Rexholme*, from a strong City and Castle seated in two little Islands in the mouth of the river *Woxen*, in the one of which the Castle, and in the other the City is seated; although the right name of this countrey among Historians be knowne by the name *Carelia*. But among all these strong holds & castles, none is to be compared with the strong fort *Notteburg*, which hath therefore hitherto ever beene holden invincible, untill now of late

His war with
the Russian
Prince.

The countrey
of *Carelia*
corruptly cal-
led *Rexholme*
taken in.

The invinci-
ble force of
Notteburg.

late experience hath taught us the contrary. It is built in a little Iland in the mouth of the swift river Nerva; and by reason of the breadth of the river could not be battered with ordnance. This strong castle therefore being of so great importance, was never unfurnished. But the great God of heaven, who according to his good will and pleasure, disposes of all these sublunary things, and infatuates the wisdom of the wise, delivered this invincible fort into the hands of an invincible Prince: a presage, no doubt, of his future, great and glorious victories. But the manner is yet more admirable: for within the soldiers were not unfurnished of sufficient foode, and the enemies force (as said is) they needed not much to feare; but within their mouthes and throats there grew so many great warts, that although they had food sufficient, yet could they not feed on the same, nor yet swallow down any sustenance, for the which cause they were forced to surrender this strong fort into his maiesties hands. And so he that made the walls of *Iericho* at the sound of a rammes home to fall downe, to make a way for his owne people of *Israel* to enter this City, found out this way to take in this invincible fort. And whosoever sees not the same providence accompanying & prospering him in this so great a warre now undertaken against the whole power of the *Austrian* house and the *Catholike* league, I thinke is more then put-blind. There is in that same countrey another strong Castle,

The strange manner of taking in the Castle of *Norichburg*.

Castle *Iuanogorod*, seated on the top of a high rocke, in an *Isthmus*, or narrow plaine, a great part thereof being environed with this swift river. And although on the west side, as it looketh towards the river it might be battered; yet both that way, as likewise both the south and north parts were well defended by this river; and on the east there was a low valley, digged by natures owne industry, where the people had their habitation, the countrey about being plain and leuell, and so high that the ordnance could touch onely the tops of the turrets, and goe no lower. Neither yet was there any undermining by reason of that soile which was altogether rockie. This fort notwithstanding, together with the former 2. and many more were by this same king taken in the yeare 1617, in so much that this great Prince was then put in no small feare of loosing all or the greater part of his dominion, whereof there was then no small danger. Wherefore the great Knezor or Duke, *Michael Feodorovitch*, sonne to the former perfidious *Iuani Vasilienitz Suski*, earnestly suing for peace, it was at length by the mediation of king *Iames* of famous memory effected, and in the yeare 1618. fully finished and agreed upon. And thus were those aforementioned townes and forts, and divers others belonging to this *Carelia Rusbenica*, or countrey of *Rexholme*, together with all the deeds and evidences thereunto pertaining, resigned over and delivered in-

The taking in of the strong fort *Iuanogorod*.

to the hands of this king, and for ever annexed unto the Crowne of Sweden; and all other places during this warre taken from the Russian, againe to him restored; as in the articles of agreement in 18. more at length is to be seene. Neither was this king then past 21. yeares of age, when he had brought to a happy end two so great and important warres. Now after this happy and peaceable conclusion, having established peace in al his Prouinces, he gave nothimself over to his lustfull pleasures (as is often too customary with young Princes) nor to drowne himselve with sinnefull delights; but gaue himselve wholly to beautifie and adorne this peaceable kingdome, whereof hee was now fully possessed: which could no better be effected, then by confirming the ancient good and wholesome lawes and constitutions of the kingdome, adding some others as occasion required. And therefore, as was already touched, he not onely reinforced the former lawes and constitutions concerning trafficke and commerce betwixt the sea townes, but added also divers others, tending to that same purpose; together with many other things, whereon for brevity I may not now insist.

But that he might leave a perpetuall memoriall to the Christian world, that he was as well a favourer of *Minerva* as of *Mars*, hee hath left thereof a sufficient prooffe to all after ages. During the reigne of *Ericus Balbus*, the then Archbishop

Confirmation
of the ancient
lawes concern-
ing trafficke
and commerce
betwixt the
sea townes,

bishop of Vpsalia, *Iexlerus* instituted and founded in the same City a colledge of 4 professors; and afterwards the number of professors being increased, together with an addition of far greater meanes, it was in the yeare 1476. by Pope *Sixtus* the 4. erected into the forme of an Vniuersitie, and adorned with the like priuiledges, as that of Bononia. This Vniuersitie by iniurie of time and devouring warres being much endamaged, and having lost much of it's ancient splendour and beauty, was again by the late deceased *Charles* the 9. as it were, out of her ashes not onely restored to former dignity and splendour, but a good encrease also added to her former beauty. And this same invincible king now living, to testifie to posterity the love he beareth to learning, hath so encreased both the number of learned professors and their maintenance, that now it may well be compared with many of the best Vniuersities of Europe; and lest it should at any time hereafter by reason of the want or uncertainty of meanes come to ruine or decay, did in the yeare 1624. out of his owne revenues settle upon the same very great and large means, and confirmed the same in most large and ample manner, and made the possession of these lands and rents, as sure and firme as the best Noblemans of the kingdome.

This Prince, after he had lived a few yeares in peace, was againe intangled in a new warre with his Vncle *Sigismund* king of Polonia, in the which

The Vniuersitie of Vpsalia is by him much enriched and adorned.

His war with
his Vncle, Si-
gismund king,
of Poland.

which he tooke from him many strong townes and forts of no small importance, without any losse to himselfe (for he made warre in his enemies countrey) both in the kingdome of Poland, it selfe, in the Duchie of Lithuania, and in the rich countrey of Prussia; so that if this king had continued as he began, and affaires of a higher nature and straine had not invited him another way, notwithstanding the ayde the Emperor his brother in law sent him, he had, perhaps, ere now beene deprived of a great part, if not of all his great dominion. The which by him wisely, and in time foreseene, he earnestly sued both to our gracious kings maiestie now living, and to the king of France to mediate a faire agreement betwixt him and his nephew; the which was accordingly performed the 29. of Septemb. 1629. a truce and cessation of armes beeing for fixe yeares after ensuing there agreed upon: by vertue of which agreement the king of Sweden restored againe to his Vncle many places by him taken in the kingdome of Poland, and Duchie of Lithuania; howbeit he reteineth still many good townes and castles in the countrey of Prussia. The particuler articles of their agreement for avoiding tediousnesse of set purpose I here passe by; and who so is desirous to see the same, may have recourse to the histories.

THE

*The entering of the invincible king of Sweden,
great Gustavus Adolphus into Germanie
with a great Armie, Anno 1630. with a
touch of some principall exploits by
him since that time achie-
ved and brought
to passe.*

RAdolphus, Earle of Halsburg, being in the yeare 1274. crowned Emperour at Aquisgranum or Aix, layed the first foundation of the greatnes of the *Austrian* house. This Prince then besides that with many great lordships, partly by force and violence, and partly by purchase he much increased his hereditary dominions; the country of Austria also by want of a lawfull successeur fell into this Emperors hands to dispose of; which he estsoone conferred upon his sonne *Albertus*. Into this Austria then were incorporated all these other dominions. *Radolphus* being dead, *Adolphus* Earle of Nassau was elected Emperour, and afterwards by the ~~sa~~for said *Albertus* killed, who got himselfe afterward chosen Emperour. This Prince likewise spared no paines, but improved his utmost power and means for the increasing of this already grounded greatnes. And this made him so eager an enemy to the
O Helve-

Helverian liberty, labouring by all meanes, direct or indirect, to hooke in whatsoever he could compasse to make his sons great, and to advance the now rising Austrian house; yea, so eager was he in prosecuting his purpose, that he spared not the very monasteries and religious houses, but either bought out right what might thus be purchased, or else procured himselfe and his sons to be made patrons and protectors of such ecclesiasticall places, a faire way for future possession. But the uniuert murder of his predecessor, being by his own brothers sonne revenged (who killed this ambitious *Albert*) and all his covetousnesse and ambition now layed in the dust; the Princes of this Austrian house, as they had now & then their turnes in this supreme authority, so were they not wanting to themselves and successors, but as time and opportunity were offered, went on in their predecessors footsteps. At length, after the death of *Sigismund* the Emperour in the yeare 1438, another *Albert* of this Austrian house, and sonne in law to the aforesaid *Sigismund* was elected Emperour; the which his successors (having now yet once againe gotten the ball before them) have kept close unto themselves almost for the space of 200 yeares, even untill this very day; having also afterwards added to their former greatnesse the kingdome of Hungaria, Bohemia, with the appurtenances thereof, Silesia, Moravia, the one and other Lusatia, and become also at several times, Lords

Albert killed.

Another Albert Emperour.

Wonderfull greatnes of the house of Austria.

and

and masters of Sciria, Carinthia, and Sirolia; and by marriage afterwards gotten in the 17. Prouinces. At length *Charles* the fifth (as though this house had not yet bin great enough) brought for his share the kingdomes of Spaine and Portugal, together with all the kingdomes and dominions thereupon depending: as namely the kingdome of Naples, Sicilie, and Duchie of Milan, besides the West-Indies, and all the riches of that Western world, with some thing in the East-Indies also. All this notwithstanding, this great Monarch, according to his *plus ultra*, not contented with all these dominions; aimed yet further at the subversion and overthrow both of true religion, and the liberty of Germany, and began to act such a tragedy in high Germany, as his sonne *Philip* afterwards attempted in the low countries: for the which cause to have Pope *Leo* the 10. for his friend, as he had before anathematized *Luther*, so this Emperour to act his part, proscribes him. This plot for a while succeeded according to his wishes, inso much that *John Frederick*, Prince elector, and the Landgrave of Hessen protectors and maintainers of the true reformed religion preached by *Luther*, and the Germane liberty were in open field overthrown their forces disperfed, and they themselves taken prisoners. But at length, *Maurice*, Duke of Saxonic the Emperours Generall, and newly possessed, not onely of his kinsmans lands and possessions, but of his electorate dignity also,

Charles the 5. attempted the overthrow of true religion, together with the Germane liberty.

contrary to the Emperours expectation, turning his power against himselfe, forces him, not onely to a restitution of the captives, but likewise to a settled peace and liberty of religion within the whole Germane countryes: and so it did here plainely appeare how God brought light out of darknes.

The Iesuites, the incendiaries of the Christian world, envying the peace and prosperitie of the same, as in other parts, so in this countrey of Germany have they laboured to overthrow and subvert both the State of the true reformed Church and common-wealth. And although they have been a long time proiecing such a plot, yet could it not so conveniently be brought about untill such time as *Fredericke primus*, Palatine Elector, having accepted of the Bohemian Crowne, being freely and lawfully therunto elected, this viperous generation, being of a martiall breed, failed not to lay hold on such an offered opportunitie; and therefore cease not to incense and stirre up the Emperor *Ferdinand* the 2. (of himselfe sensible enough of any thing that might but in shew derogate from the dignity of the Austrian house) to prosecute that which before had been proieced. And thus was this Noble Prince deprived not onely of his kingdome of Bohemia, but of all his hereditary dominions and electorate dignitie. And whereas many ignorant of the Iesuites farre fetched secret stratagems, did verily beleieve that now they were attained

attained to the utmost end they aimed at, it appeared farre otherwise. For now the fire that so long lay covered under the ashes breakes forth, and sets upon a sudden all these flourishing Provinces of Germany on fire: and the visard now remooved their purpose, was made manifest to the blindest eye-sight; to wit, the totall ruine and overthrow of the true religion in many, yea in most places of Germany professed, the reducing of them againe to the Romish superstition, and utter overthrow of the liberties of the Roman Empire: whose designs whosoever, in defence of Gods cause and liberties of their owne countrey, did any way oppose, have been in most barbarous manner prosecuted and persecuted with fire and sword, and many forced to forsake their ancient inheritances to save their lives and keepe a good conscience, in still professing that religion wherein they had heretofore beene brought up. Others againe more pusillanimous and loath to loose all for Christ, yet besides, a shameful and perfidious abinration of that truth which before they had professed, were yet notwithstanding forced to yeeld to such slavish and servile conditions, as the insolency of a victorious enemy was pleased to impose upon them.

When this tyranny had now at least, for the space of tenne yeares beene after a rigid manner prosecuted, it pleased Almighty God of his infinite goodnesse, all other meanes now failing, in pity and compassion to his poore afflicted

Church, now destitute of the least appearance of any humane helpe, to raise up meanes of deliverance, where, I am sure, it was least expected, even that illustrious and victorious king of Sweden, Captaine of the Lords host.

Gustavus Adolphus, King of the Swethens, Goths, and Vandals, arrived in Pomer, in February, *An. 1630.* and landed neere unto the Isles of Rugen, and Vidome, at a little village, called Pennemund, with no more at the first, then 6000 souldiers. Himselfe comming on shoare, falls downe, and powres out this vnto God, *O Lord, thou that rulest over the Heavens, the earth, and the vast sea, I cannot sufficiently give thee thanks, that thou hast preserved me so graciously in this perillous journey; O Lord I render thanks vnto thee, and give praise vnto thee, from the very bottome of my heart, beseeching thee (seeing thou knowest, that this voyage, my purpose and intent tends not to my owne, but onely to thy glory and honour, and for the comfort and helpe of thy afflicted Church, that is now the time, and appointed houre be come, Assist me further with thy grace and blessing. & grant me a prosperous wind, and good weather, that I may behold the rest of my Army with a ioyfull eye, which I have left behind me picked up, out of diuers nations, to the end that with them, I may aduance forward thy holy worke. Amen.*

The Kings Officers and Councell, stepping on land after him, and hearing such a zealous prayer, comming from him in this manner, could not forbear weeping, which the King perceiuing, sayd

sayd vnto them, *Weepe not my friends, but pray feruently, from the bottome of your hearts, the more yee pray, the more victory God will give you, for earnest prayer is more then the gaining of halfe a battle. It seemes, since that time, that the Kings prayer hath auailed much with God, and how mightily the Lord hath been with him, in taking in many countries, cities, and townes, in ouerthrowing the Emperours invincible Army, and that of the Catholike League, and the mighty increasing of his Armie, since his first landing. Other particulars may give satisfaction to the Reader; to God the onely author, and giuer of them, be giuen immortal praise. Amen.*

FINIS